

1508/1125
D E L I N E A T I O N S

OF THE

H E A R T;

OR, THE

H I S T O R Y

OF

H E N R Y B E N N E T.

A TRAGI-COMI-SATIRIC ESSAY,

Attempted in the Manner of FIELDING.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

W. Raithby

If I lash vice in general fiction,
Is't I apply, or self-conviction?
I no man call or rogue or fool,
'Tis his own conscience forms the rule,
Thus void of all offence I write,
Who claims my fable knows his right.

Gas.

Canam.

————— credit e factum;
Et, si credetis, facti quoque credite pœnam.

OVID

V O L. I.

D U B L I N:

PRINTED FOR MESSRS. P. WOGAN, P. BYRNE, A. GRUE-
BER, W. M'KENZIE, J. MOORE, J. JONES,
W. JONES, R. M'ALLISTER, R. WHITE,

1792.



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P R E F A C E.

THE Author of the following pages presents his work with the utmost deference and respect to the public judgment.

Sensible of the importance of the task he has undertaken, he has bestowed as much care as his situation would allow, to perform it with fidelity, and he trusts its errors will not be found to be those of wilful negligence.

The intelligent reader will discern that the Author has rather attempted Fielding's style of composition, than the comic nature of the facts with which the works of that eminent writer abounds. He intreats the public candor; and as a motive to the exertion of it on his behalf, he

P R E F A C E.

will not mention the difficulty which attends the assumption of the characteristic of another; this is well known; he will rather adduce a circumstance in his favor of a more private nature; the following performance is the only one with which he hath ever yet presumed to trouble the world.



D E L I N E A T I O N S

OF THE

H E A R T.

BOOK THE FIRST.

C H A P. I

Being the introductory Chapter to the first book of this history.

THERE have been in almost every age and nation of the world, certain learned and ingenious persons, who have taken great delight in recording the achievements of those who have rendered themselves famous by their very great and extraordinary qualifications, and who, by way of pre-eminence, have been denominated heroes.

Nor have there at the same time been wanting those, who have with equal pleasure and avidity perused the works of these historians, and contemplated the exploits they have happily recorded.

Now it may not be either unpleasant or wholly useless to employ ourselves for a moment in drawing a short contrast between the heroes of antient, and those of modern date.

The heroes then, of former times, appear to have been men of a very daring and ferocious aspect, of violent and ambitious souls, wholly addicted to the love of war, and continually engaged in enterprises the most hazardous and destructive. Now, though the said heroes made a mighty stir in their own times, and are handed down to ours as objects worthy of great esteem and admiration; though they were worshipped as gods among their cotemporaries, and are held in wonderful veneration by us, I cannot help thinking, that upon a nearer review of their characters and actions, we should be greatly inclined to consider them and their followers as little better than a most desperate gang of bravoes, who carried terror and desolation wherever they went, and whose very clemency was ever the effect of fear and policy.

There have, indeed, arisen two or three heroes of a different description, whose names have reached us, and whose works are to this day held in great regard, yet most of these appear,

upon



upon a strict examination, to have been knaves only of a different description; and while the warlike heroes above mentioned have been engaged in robbing other countries, these have been more silently pursuing the destruction of their own.

Modern heroes, on the other hand, are much more gentle creatures, and very unlike their brethren of old in almost every respect. That their ambition doth not run so high must be very plain to the most casual observer; since, while nothing less than titles of the highest sound, and power the most unlimited, would satisfy the greedy ambition of the latter, the highest wish of the former is fully gratified with the simple title of gentleman.

This word is of a very doubtful sort, and, to say the truth, we have been at no little pains to trace out its true meaning; in consequence of which we have been led to conclude, either that in fact it hath no meaning at all, or that if it ever had a meaning, that meaning is entirely corrupted. It appears indeed not improbable, that among the qualifications once held necessary to the composition of a gentleman, those of courage, humanity, wisdom, and learning, were esteemed

highly requisite, but if ever this were the case, certain it is, that by many modern heroes, or, if the reader pleases, gentlemen, such qualifications are not only considered as wholly unnecessary, but are held in the utmost contempt.

Nor is the difference between the pride of these antient and modern heroes less conspicuous than that of their ambition. Among the former, the vulgar were held in the greatest derision, and they were in general so far from condescending to associate with them, that, except on certain occasions, they ever treated them as the basest slaves—Now, on the contrary, such is the humility, even of the most exalted among modern heroes, and so little do these appear to esteem themselves above others, that it is not uncommon to behold the most worthless of the people admitted to their feasts and diversions, nay, to a participation of their warmest attachments.

But, lest any one of our poorer readers should here run away with a mistaken notion of that humility we have mentioned, supposing from what we have said that our great modern heroes admit *all* indiscriminately to their notice or regard, and should hope, in

con-

consequence, to be admitted himself thereto, we must inform him that this hope will prove utterly delusive, unless he be admitted and declared a master in the elegant and useful art of boxing, and have attained to a great proficiency in the honorable and universal science of gambling, since nothing less than a knowledge of these will be adequate to wipe off the dishonour of his poverty, and entitle him to a reception into the company and friendship of modern heroes.

Another distinction between ancient and modern heroes is no less remarkable, for whereas the former of these were entirely employed in overturning states, plundering cities, murdering the inhabitants, &c. while these latter are, in general, attentive only to promote confusion of a more private nature; and so little addicted indeed are they to bloodshed, that I am well informed many of them, upon the sight of human blood, are greatly prone to shew sundry marks of high disgust and terror. Their chief exploits consist, as I find by many modern records, in the most safe and expeditious modes of conveying away the daughters, and sometimes the wives of their friends, to seeret places; but so far are they

from first of all murdering half a score of the lady's relations, which an antient hero would have done, that they have, or at least profess to have, the tenderest regard for all the family. Nor further, do they, like their antient brethren, feel any inclination to make perpetual slaves of their fair prisoners; so far from it, that after they have detained them a month or two in durance, they are often found gladly seizing the first opportunity of leaving them very fairly at large.

There is one thing, however, in which these antient and modern heroes appear to agree, namely, the end they propose to answer by their various exploits, and this is universally the gratification of their ruling passions; and it is indeed owing to the difference of these passions, and to the influence of fortuitous circumstances, that their modes of gratification are of so different a complexion; for the fact is, that that man, whose mind is not influenced by a love of virtue and sense of honor, will ever seek the gratification we have mentioned, and nothing but exterior considerations will influence him in adopting the means of attaining it.

Upon the whole, we find, both from antient and modern records, that neither

ther virtue or success are found indispensably requisite to the composition of a hero. This, were it necessary, we could easily prove to the satisfaction of the reader.

Seeing, therefore, there is variety of precedent to plead in our behalf, both ancient and modern, we trust the reader will not be too hasty to condemn us, if the character and conduct of the hero, to whom we are now about to introduce him, should not be marked or attended with all the virtue or success he could wish. This, however, we do not absolutely say will be the case; but thus much we will venture to promise, that it is more than probable our hero's fate, be it good or bad, will be better proportioned to his deserts than generally happens to be the case with many of his modern brethren.

C H A P. II.

In which the reader is made acquainted with our hero.

IT hath been the practice of certain eminent biographers to pass over every insignificant

insignificant incident of the lives they have recorded, as irrelevant to the grand design of their history, unless these should happen to be such as plainly manifest any peculiar disposition or tendency in their hero, which is judged to be worthy of the reader's notice.

We should, therefore, in conformity to the example of such biographers, pass over in silence that considerable portion of time which elapsed between the period of our hero's birth, and that in which he arrived at some degree of maturity; since, in this interim, nothing worthy of record happened, but that we judge it will be both necessary and agreeable to our readers to be in some measure led into an acquaintance with the primary disposition of that personage, some of the leading actions of whose life they are about to review; and because we would not have them wholly ignorant how far his native inclinations may have led him to attend to, or deviate from the precepts and examples he received in the earlier stages of that life.

Henry Bennet then, the hero of this history, was the son of Titus Bennet (a man who had accumulated a considerable fortune by lending money to necessitous minors, officers, noblemen, &c.

to which he was daily adding by the same practice) by Carolina Matilda Bennet his wife, who was a woman of great fashion and fortune, being no other than the daughter of a very eminent china-man in the city of London, who, at his death, left the said Carolina Matilda possessed of the sum of 20,000l.

So immersed was Titus Bennet in schemes to enlarge his fortune, and so little did he attend to his domestic concerns for some years after the birth of Henry, that the whole care of the young gentleman's education fell upon Mrs. Bennet, who, to do her justice, paid him as much attention as was in her power to spare, from that which dress and visiting demanded: for although no man could be more anxious to have a son than Mr. Bennet had been, and although when a son was given to his possession, he loved him as much as it is usual for fathers to love their children, yet he was perfectly easy in committing him for improvement to the care of his wife. Now, though Mrs. Bennet, as we have said, bestowed upon her son what attention she could spare from visiting and dress, yet, as it happened, that that attention was very little (the said visiting and dress being with this lady of a very important nature and, taking

taking up no little portion of time); so did it also happen, that at the age of twelve years Master Henry had a perfect knowledge of what many other young gentlemen of fortune at a more advanced age are well acquainted with, that is to say, nothing at all.

But lest our readers should think Mrs. Bennet a very unkind mother, and that we mean to pass an indiscriminating censure upon her conduct in this instance, we must beg leave to say she had been very careful of his person, and to instruct him, as far as his years would permit, in the art of setting it off by dress; that he should learn to dance, and to introduce him as soon as possible into all the company she frequented herself.

Under the instructions of his mother, and by the aid of that example which every day furnished to his observation in that school of folly into which the good lady had so early initiated him, he profited amazingly; insomuch that he soon began to shew great improvement in all modern gentlemanlike qualifications; he could swear with a decent grace, talk very fast, be exceedingly impertinent, and, in short, the marks of a proud, vain, extravagant, insolent disposition began early to shew themselves.

themselves in young Henry in the most forward and promising colors ; and it is probable the young gentleman might have been permitted to remain a considerable time longer under the care of his good tutoress, had not something fell out which excited more of Mr. Bennet's attention towards his son than he had hitherto shewn.

There is in the houses of most gentlemen a room particularly set apart from all others, which room is denominated the study, giving us thereby to understand that learning is, as we have observed, one constituent part of a gentleman : this is of very antient custom, and doubtless many years ago was consecrated to that use which its title seems to import. But as time hath introduced in many instances very wonderful misapplications of names and things, so hath it in the present. The said room, although it still retains its antient title, being now much in use as a sleeping or dozing room ; to which title indeed it hath at least as good a claim as many bed-chambers, being generally pretty well furnished with the greatest incitements to sleep with some modern gentlemen, namely, books. Now, in the house of Mr. Bennet was a room of this kind, but which, instead of having

in it anything of a sleepy nature, would always have produced the most wakeful sensations in the breast of its owner, though he had been before ever so much overpowered by drowsy ones: perhaps the furniture, which a little differed from what is generally found in such rooms, might a little contribute to this wakeful propensity, for though, like other studies it was filled with books, yet was the subject upon which they treated of so pleasant a nature that Mr. Bennet never found himself tired of perusing them; they were indeed, to speak a little more plainly, no other than books of account, every page of which presented him with a prospect of the enormous gains he was daily making. Added to this, as a reason why Mr. Bennet found so little inclination to indulge the practice of sleeping in his study, there were none of those charming couches or sofas which have sometimes found their way into these repositories of learning; the only furniture indeed being, except the before-mentioned books, a desk and a couple of stools. Into this room, in which Mr. Bennet also kept what stock of cash he had by him, none of the family was permitted to enter, and he therefore always kept the key himself, evermore fastening

fastening the door when he left the room.

This conduct of the father greatly excited a curiosity in the son to know what this wonderful room might contain, and the reason why his father spent so many hours in it alone, as he found he did. He resolved, therefore, if any opportunity should present itself, he would seize it for gratifying his purpose, and to that end set himself as much as he could to watch the motions of the old gentleman, not doubting but that in some lucky hour he would forget his usual caution; and accordingly it did so happen; for one day, being upon the watch, he observed his father come out of his study, and leave the door, without the usual precaution of locking it, this the lad thought the favorable moment, and no sooner was his father out of sight, than, stepping forth from his hiding place, he hastened into the room; the first sight that presented itself was a large heap of money upon the desk; with the sight of which he for some time feasted his imagination with great delight; he then surveyed the other parts of the room, with which indeed his curiosity was soon satisfied, and he returned to the money; when it unluckily came into

into his head that he might convert a small part of it to his own use, without any fear of discovery, and the rather, as the quantity before him was exceedingly large. He did not long hesitate, and was upon the point of conveying into his pocket a couple of guineas, when his father, who it seems had but just slept into another room, to seek a lost key, returned. What was his astonishment when, upon his entrance, he saw his son hastily dismount from the stool, which was before the desk on which the money was laid ! and what were the terrors of Harry when his father, with a most terrible and angry voice, asked him what he was doing there ! and immediately (without waiting for an answer) charged him with purloining some of the money. The boy pleaded his innocence, persisted that he had not taken any money, for that what he had was his own, having been before given him, and desired instant dismission to his mother; the consequence of all which was immediately a very severe correction, and a dismission from the room, with certain threats of a very speedy dismission from the house.

It was some little time after Henry had been sent out of the room, before the father could recover himself from his

his astonishment at the audacity with which his son had denied the commission of a fact, in which he had been so palpably detected ; nor was this astonishment the less in him, because he himself had gained, and was still continuing to gain his riches, by the arts of fraud ; for such were the powers of his discrimination in ethics, that he saw a vast difference between those two sets of thieves, the one of which is universally decried as such, while those persons who compose the other, are allowed by the world to be very honest gentlemen, or, in other words, the manner in which the robbery was committed, and not the robbery itself, was the object of his dislike. Nor did the youth of the offender a little contribute to heighten his amazement,

But no sooner had this astonishment a little subsided, and he had reflected further upon his son's behaviour, than, seeing the necessity of the measure, he resolved upon taking him from under the tuition of his mother, and sending him to some school in the country, where, if he did not gain much learning, he might also escape those lessons of knavery which he stood so good a chance of having at home. He, therefore, having carefully conveyed his gold

gold into his desk, and his books to their places, sallied forth from his study (leaving, however, the door of it double locked) in quest of his wife, determined to communicate to that lady his intentions respecting her son.

Upon his receiving that unpleasant dismission from his father, which we have before commemorated, the young gentleman flew to his mother, who ever heard his complaints, and afforded him consolation under all his sufferings, and who now lent her usually attentive ear, while Henry related, not without many bitter sighs and tears, the rough treatment he had met with from his father; and by way of quieting his sorrow, and appeasing his resentment, both of which upon this occasion were pretty high, she told him that his father was both a barbarian and a fool.

In the midst of this interview between the mother and son, Mr. Bennet entered; but if his anger was great before, it was not a little increased at seeing the tender caresses which Mrs. Bennet bestowed upon her son, who in his opinion deserved in their stead a sound chastisement. What passed between them shall be related in a fresh chapter.

C H A P. III.

A dialogue between Mr. and Mrs. Bennet, and other things.

THERE were three things towards which Mr. Bennet bore a perfect hatred; and they were, first, his wife; secondly, that set of people which are called quality; and thirdly, which indeed is partly included in the second, the manners of the said quality; in all which persons and things, Mrs. Bennet greatly delighted, and perhaps the more, for that very dislike which her husband bore towards them:—the hatred of the first led him to thwart his wife in all her purposes and opinions; and of the second and third, not only to keep himself from all association with and imitation of the manners of the great, but to resolve from this time, if possible, to keep his son also therefrom: This triple hatred (if we may so call it) had at this time great possession of his mind, and received, together with his before-mentioned anger, much addition

dition at the sight of that tender scene between the youth and his mother, which we mentioned at the conclusion of the last chapter.

Having without much ceremony taken young Harry from his mother's embrace, and turned him out of the room, he thus abruptly addressed Mrs. Bennet,—“ That boy, Madam, will “ come to be hanged ! it was but just “ now I caught him, fairly caught him, “ stealing money from off the desk in “ the study.”—“ I don't believe it,” returned Mrs. Bennet, “ I don't think he “ has any such low, mean spirit about “ him, as to think about money ; he has “ seen too much good company, thank “ heaven ! and my care of him.”—“ D—n your good company,” replied Bennet, “ if they never think about “ money, it is because they have none “ to think of ; I'd see all such company “ at the devil before they should ever “ catch me among them.—A set of “ poor, paltry rascals ; I've at this very “ time above a dozen mortgages of your “ quality.—Gentlemen—fellows that I “ would not trust with the alphabet of “ my ledger, and the deuce a bit of in- “ terest is to be got from them ; but I “ shall foreclose soon.—Money, egad ! “ —Quality and money don't so often “ go

“ go together.”—“ Beastly !” exclaimed the lady, “ you know there is not one of my friends but what thinks you a brute.”—“ Aye, aye, with all my heart,” returned Bennet, “ I have no objection to that, but let them do without the brute if they can; I fancy there are some of them would as soon dare to cut their ears off, as to call me a brute, though, to my face:”—No, no, they know better; if they didn’t I should soon teach them. There is your fine friend, Lord Squander; look at him; he pretends to be a mighty great fellow, and has not got a farthing in the world he can call his own; pretty chaps indeed to call me a brute!—But when they want to put off the day of payment,—you’ll find its how do you do, Mr. Bennet? My dear Mr. Bennet, your most humble servant, I am most happy to see you,—with their hypocritical grimaces and speeches; Oh Lord! Oh Lord!”—At these words, he cast up his eyes with that kind of contemptuous sneer, which generally serves as a pretty good whet to the patience of the person to whom it is addressed, and which did indeed at this time so provoke Mrs Bennet, who, poor woman, was not at the best of times,

times, perhaps, mistress of any extraordinary share of that cardinal virtue, that it was with much difficulty she restrained from committing a very improper and indecent violence on the person of her husband, with her hands; but though she was hindered from this, by the suggestions of fear or prudence, she did not consider herself as by any means bound to restrain, or more vulgarly speaking, to hold her tongue; she therefore set about taking the only mode of revenge in her power, with all imaginable heartiness and expedition, and, to own the truth, did by no means spare him: At length, she concluded a speech, or rather scolding, which we shall not here relate, with saying, " You
" are a barbarous man, Mr. Bennet,
" first of all, to accuse my poor child
" wrongfully, for I'm sure he never
" hath been guilty of it; and then to
" beat the poor dear creature for his
" supposed fault; you are a vile unnat-
" tural wretch, and I shall always think
" you so, I shall, for behaving so to that
" poor boy."—" All that may be," said
Bennet, " but nevertheless, I should
" take the same liberty again, if ever I
" was to catch my young gentleman at
" the same tricks; and you ought to be
" ashamed of yourself to encourage the
" boy

“ boy in his wicked practices.”—“ I
“ encourage him,” returned Mrs. Ben-
“ net, “ you ought to be ashamed of
“ yourself for saying so ; no, Mr. Ben-
“ net, I should scorn any such thing ;
“ I encourage him in wicked prac-
“ tices !”—“ I don’t know what you call
“ encouraging,” said Bennet, “ if kiss-
“ ing and slobbering the boy when he
“ is in a fault, is not ; I should have
“ thought too, that you would have
“ been pleased with the correction I
“ had bestowed upon him, rather than
“ have behaved in this manner ; how-
“ ever, there’s one thing I can tell you,
“ Madam, the boy shan’t stay here any
“ longer to be corrupted, that I am de-
“ termined on ; he shall be sent off to
“ school in the country, where at least
“ he will be out of the way of tempta-
“ tion.”—“ What do you say, Sir ?” in-
terrupted Mrs. Bennet, “ school ! my
“ Harry go to school ! are you not out
“ of your wits, Mr. Bennet ? You must
“ be mad, truly, to think of such a
“ thing ; no, the dear child shall never
“ be sent from home, to be beat and
“ chumped about by an old barbarous
“ school-master ; he shall not indeed,
“ Mr. Bennet ; besides, there is nothing
“ learnt at these vile schools, but vul-
“ garity and ill-breeding ; the child will

“ be ruined.”—“ Ruined! nonsense!” said Titus, “ he is more likely to be ruined by staying at home: You see what a pretty specimen he has given of the mighty good he gets; stealing, robbing, plundering his own father!”—“ I don’t believe it, nor ever will believe it,” said the lady. “ He rob his father! I wonder you don’t blush to have such thoughts of your own son.”—“ It don’t signify talking,” rejoined the husband, “ if he stays here much longer, I tell you he will come to be hanged; and therefore, to prevent all mischief, down into the country he shall go, and there is an end of the business.”—“ But there is not an end of the business, Mr. Bennet,” returned the lady; “ he shan’t go into the country to be made a clown and a fool of; one might think your own sense would teach you better.”—“ He had better be a fool than a rogue,” said Bennet. “ He had better be neither,” said Mrs. Bennet; “ but since your obstinate humours must be complied with, and you can’t think your son safe in the care of your wife, Sir, let me have a tutor at home, and, for heaven’s sake, never think of being so vulgar as to send him to school.”—“ A tutor at home!” cried Titus, staring with

with surprise, " a tutor at home ! egad, " I think I have people enough about " me as it is ; I hate all tutors, and such " learned fellows, and if I should get " one of them about me, perhaps the " first person in the house he would " think a fool, would be the master " on't ; besides, if I was to have a tutor " for him, what then ?" The latter part of this reply not being uttered in so high, or magisterial a tone of voice, as had somewhat distinguished certain of Mr. Bennet's foregoing speeches on this occasion, and the lady presently perceiving this, and being nothing loth to take all possible advantage thereof, pressed the matter home so closely upon her husband, and demonstrated to him so clearly, or perhaps violently, the great utility of a private tutor, that the poor man was at last obliged to give way, and a tutor was to be sought, to superintend the education of her son.

We should be equally surprised with the reader, who, we doubt not, is very much surprised at seeing Titus Bennet thus yielding to the will of his wife, (for whom he had by no means, as above observed, any very great and partial love) in a matter of such importance as was that, which gave rise to this de-

bate, were we not well acquainted with many facts in the lives of this worthy couple, with which it would have been perfectly unnecessary and impertinent to trouble the reader; suffice it therefore to say, that in the course of those years, which had passed over their heads since the memorable day on which they were united, numberless similar causes of dispute had arisen between them, in most of which, Titus was defeated; till at last, by degrees, his resistance to the wishes of his dame became less and less strenuous, though he always took all possible care to hide this from her, and, in fact, never would, but upon one occasion, be brought to confess it.

C H A P. IV.

In which a tutor is provided for master Henry Bennet.

AS it was the intention of Mrs. Bennet to have her son as well qualified in every thing, as a lad could be, who was not by any means suffered to be

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controll'd in his inclinations, and who was not permitted to study too much, lest his health should be impaired, so did that lady determine, that the person who should be hired as a tutor to Master Harry, should possess every accomplishment necessary to such a situation. In pursuance therefore of that agreement between herself and her husband, which we mentioned in the last chapter, enquiries were made among her friends, for a recommendation of some gentleman who would engage to educate her son in every branch of modern and polite learning, for which he was to receive, not only board and lodging in the house, but also the annual sum of twenty pounds.

Notwithstanding the nobleness of the terms, it was some time before Mrs. Bennet could meet with any body who would accept of them; some objecting to the salary; and others to sundry of the annexed conditions. At last, however, a clergyman was engaged, who brought with him every requisite recommendation to the place.

Mr. Franks, which was the name of this gentleman, was a man of learning and great ability, of a sedate turn and respectable appearance, about the age of thirty. His father had formerly been a

merchant, remarkable at once for the extent and honor of his dealings in trade, and for his amiable deportment in private life. His son, the person of whom we are now speaking, was designed by him for the mercantile profession; to the concerns of which, as far as they regarded his own interest, he assiduously applied himself, that his son might have the less difficulty in his future progress; the lad discovering very early a great disinclination to trade, and, as he grew still older, manifesting not only a love of letters, but also very promising indications of genius, his father, much to the honor of his generous and liberal spirit, readily changed his design, and, after making himself acquainted with the tendency of his son's wishes, put him into a proper course of study for that line to which they seemed to be inclined, namely, the church. Having properly qualified himself at school, his father sent him to the university, where, by the assiduity with which he pursued his studies, and the general regularity and amiableness of his conduct, he acquired the respect and esteem of all such, as know how to distinguish and love what is truly noble and praiseworthy. He had not been at Cambridge a twelvemonth, before an accident happened,

pened, which not only called him home, and put an end to his studies for the present, but also to his hopes of preferment in the line he had chosen.

This unfortunate occurrence was the death of the old gentleman, and that attended with circumstances tending greatly, in their influence, to add no inconsiderable weight to the affliction, which pervaded the breast of the young man, on the loss of a beloved and affectionate parent.

There are many people in the world, who are so impatient to possess riches, and so insatiable in their demands, that, not contented to take the ordinary methods of arriving at such possession, they are ever hatching schemes for enormous profit and advantage; the chance of which succeeding in their favour, is often such as one would think no man in his senses would wish to run; nor is this all, for it must be also observed, the plans of these persons are generally of such a nature as to involve the unlucky man, and all that are concerned with him, in the disgrace and confusion of insolvent beggary.

It was the ill fortune of Mr. Franks, the father, to meet with such a person as we have just described, and to lend an ear to a plausible story with which he

attempted to amuse him. In an evil hour the property of Mr. Franks, to the amount of many thousand pounds, was invested in a venture, from which it was proved to a demonstration, that without any hazard of loss, treble the sum would be made in a very short time. The consequence was, what our readers must suppose, viz. in a very short time the total bankruptcy of Mr. Franks, who, as many poor unhappy men have done before him, died with grief and vexation at his loss.

We will digress but for a single moment, to caution our readers against the encouragement of that avaricious and rapacious disposition, which, if it is even gratified by the success of plans, disgraceful to themselves, ruinous to trade, and subversive of all good and generous principle, will only, like the vulture, grow the more greedy from the blood it has sucked, will make its possessors, overbearing, proud and unfeeling towards others, restless and dissatisfied with themselves: but by which, if such plans are unfortunate, or such enterprises defeated, as they mostly are, they are infallibly involved in the dark clouds of despair, and their families in poverty, disgrace, and inextricable ruin.

When

When the son had performed the last offices of duty and affection to his deceased parent, and had found that upon the settlement of his affairs, there was not only nothing for himself, but nothing also for those who had by the law a superior claim; and having made repeated applications, in vain, for relief, to several of his father's rich and powerful friends, he resigned himself to sorrow, which would probably soon have ended his being, had not an old friend of his late parent, (whose fortune was small, and who, out of it, small as it was, had lost a considerable sum by the failure of Mr. Franks) compassionated his case, and proposed to enable him to pursue his studies at college for the necessary time, in hopes that something might in time turn out to his advantage.

Young Franks had scarcely completed the time intended for his stay at the university, when he lost his benefactor, this event greatly distressed him, as he had, and indeed it appears, with reason, all the affection towards him which it is possible for a good and grateful mind to conceive. So much, however, was he respected, that he gained after sometime, a curacy, or rather two curacies, in a distant part of

attempted to amuse him. In an evil hour the property of Mr. Franks, to the amount of many thousand pounds, was invested in a venture, from which it was proved to a demonstration, that without any hazard of loss, treble the sum would be made in a very short time. The consequence was, what our readers must suppose, viz. in a very short time the total bankruptcy of Mr. Franks, who, as many poor unhappy men have done before him, died with grief and vexation at his loss.

We will digress but for a single moment, to caution our readers against the encouragement of that avaricious and rapacious disposition, which, if it is even gratified by the success of plans, disgraceful to themselves, ruinous to trade, and subversive of all good and generous principle, will only, like the vulture, grow the more greedy from the blood it has sucked, will make its possessors, overbearing, proud and unfeeling towards others, restless and dissatisfied with themselves: but by which, if such plans are unfortunate, or such enterprises defeated, as they mostly are, they are infallibly involved in the dark clouds of despair, and their families in poverty, disgrace, and inextricable ruin.

When

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the country, he having two churches to attend, at the distance of seven miles every Sunday, for which he received yearly the sum of twenty-five pounds. The gentleman, it is true, who held the livings to which these two churches belonged, realized therefrom somewhat more than three hundred pounds annually; and it will therefore be supposed, perhaps, either that he might have preached at his churches himself, or have given his curate a salary more in proportion to his own revenue; but beside that there were many things in the world which the doctor preferred to preaching, he was one of those divines, who think, that however necessary ease and good living may be to a vicar or rector, a prebendary or bishop, yet that such ease, &c. are by no means to be communicated to a curate, seeing it must be absolutely impossible for so poor a fellow properly to relish them.

In this situation, hard and unpleasant as it may seem, Mr. Franks continued a considerable time, performing all the duties of it with the most careful and scrupulous attention, notwithstanding to the hardships of it, were added many instances of the sour lordly disposition of his employer, who resided some part of the year upon the spot; his only consolation

solation under this heavy burthen, being his resignation to what he conceived to be the will of Heaven, and the enjoyment of the few hours his labours allowed him, in those studies which had ever constituted his chief delight. And here, he at last began to think fortune had ceased persecuting him, (if that fortune might be called other than a persecuting one, which had seemed to have left him in so unworthy a situation) when a malady seized him, which in the end compelled him to relinquish his curacies. Returning home from the most distant of his churches on a rainy Sunday, he got wet through; but as this was not unfrequently the case in the more inclement seasons of the year, he neglected to take the necessary precautions upon his arrival at home; the consequence was a cold, which in the course of its imperecible increase, produced a disorder on the lungs, that totally incapacitated him from the performance of his office: After some time, vainly hoping for relief from the medical aid it was in his power to procure where he then was, he found that any further attempts to retain his situation would only serve the purpose of hastening his dissolution, he therefore resigned his employments to some happy successor, and

and immediately set out for London, in order to procure the necessary advice before it would be too late;—his employer generously lending him five guineas upon his note, to help to defray the expences of his journey. Soon after his arrival in London, he had the good fortune to meet with a medical friend, who, in the course of some time, relieved him from the malady under which he labored, and upon the completion of his cure, presented him with ten guineas for his present necessities, which indeed, as he told Mr. Franks, was serving him to the utmost of his power.

This sum (though the gift of it did great credit to the doctor's generosity, as his finances were not of any extraordinary dimensions) was, as it may be supposed, inadequate to the most restricted expences for any length of time; of this Franks was well aware, and foreseeing its certain and speedy reduction, he again applied himself, with all diligence, to some of his father's former friends for pecuniary assistance, and to gain some duty in the line of his profession; in both of these he was equally unsuccessful. With regard to the excuses or denials of the former, nothing can be said, the tale is

worn

worn threadbare ; the pity of the most charitable and compassionate man in the world was nearly exhausted upon the endless numbers of those, who had applied to former friends for assistance in vain ; with regard to the latter, he could not gain employment, as the shabbiness of his appearance alone was sufficient to deter any stranger from helping him, even had not every one of those strangers, to whom he applied, some of his own friends to help, who were equally in want of relief and assistance with himself.

Accordingly his ten guineas were reduced to considerably less than one, and he was upon the point of absolute despondency, when luckily his friend, the doctor, acquainted him with the proposals of Mrs. Bennet, which he had somehow or other learnt, at the same time offering to equip him with a suit of black of his own, (which, as they were nearly of a height and bulk, would, he said, fit him very well) in order to make his appearance before the lady, with a decent and necessary grace.

Mr. Franks, without delay, waited upon Mrs. Bennet, who made all her proposals to him with great form ; among these were some not the most pleasant

pleasant for a man of learning and experience, and a tutor into the bargain, to accede to; such as that her son must not be compelled to learn his exercises but when it was agreeable to him; that if the footman should happen to be out of the way, or be otherwise engaged, he must not stand upon trifles for his young master, as brushing his coat, and so on now and then; that her son, though a fine dispositioned boy, she must needs say, was apt sometimes to be in a passion, and would, may be, just pat a servant or so, or use a word or two not quite so becoming a young gentleman of his expectations, but that she dared to say, Mr. Franks was too much a man of sense not to pass over such childish behaviour towards himself; with many others of the like kind, with the whole of which, however, he instantly closed, *on necessitate*, as the intelligent reader must surely discern; and we apprehend that had Mrs. Bennet's proposals been ten times worse than they really were, such was the desperation of Franks' circumstances, and such the horror of his mind at the contemplation of starving in a Christian country, that he would for the present, at least, have promised compliance. As they were, however, *just so* he

he positively congratulated himself upon the acquisition he had obtained through the attention and friendship of the good doctor.

After all preliminaries then were settled, and Mr. Franks had, through the medium of his friend, the doctor, fitted himself decently out in clothes, and with a little ready cash, he entered with much satisfaction upon his new employ, in the family of Mr. or rather Mrs. Bennet.

We are convinced the good natured reader must feel for the situation of this worthy man, nay, the very satisfaction which he himself felt at gaining it, must excite fresh and more strong emotions of compassion in the breast of such a reader, since how low must that man have fallen! how greatly must he be depressed! whose virtues, whose learning, whose accomplishments, and whose early hopes might well have challenged fame, respect, admiration, and love; but whose poverty and distresses have made even servitude a refuge, drudgery a pleasure, and a dependance upon supercilious ignorance, an asylum from those miseries which his fate compelled him undeservedly to suffer. Such, however, is the lot of many, whose virtues are deserving of a better

a better fortune. Where, where, are the rich and powerful? where are the gay and the happy? they are reposing in ignoble indolence, upon couches of down, while the man of virtue hath not a resting place! They are gratifying their appetites with loose pleasures and luxurious dainties, while he is labouring for a scanty morsel! They are dancing along through life with unfeeling gaiety, attended, flattered, and caressed, while the unfortunate man, in whom learning, knowledge, and a gentle, enlightened and liberal soul, have united to render truly noble, is perishing in obscurity; himself the butt of upstart insolence, his qualifications the objects of unmerited ridicule, and his labours utterly neglected and forgotten!

C H A P. V.

Giving an example of the instability of human happiness.

THERE are many people in the world, the principal business of whose lives it is, to furnish out dreadful objects

jects of fear and apprehension, which objects are indeed the idle phantoms of their own distempered imagination; these persons are perpetually dreading evils which never can approach, and it may be most truly said of them, as well as of children, in the words of the poet,

“ They hear a voice in every wind.”

But there are also others, of a more hopeful and sanguine disposition, who so far from foreseeing evils which will never happen, do not perceive even those which are surrounding them; and who, while their friends are trembling for their safety, are reposing themselves in great tranquility. We leave it to casuists to determine the preference either of these dispositions may claim, while we proceed to acquaint the reader, that Mr. Franks was much more inclined, notwithstanding all he had suffered, to the latter than to the former of them, and therefore it cost him little pains, circumstanced as he was, to hope, that although the substance of Mrs. Bennet's proposals, and the manner in which they were made, did not seem of the most auspicious kind, he should find it in his power, with a little care and attention, to render the place agreeable to his

conve-

convenience in many respects, and to determine, that trifling things should not give him any uneasiness.

But alas! he had not been long in this family, before he found that some of the consequences of what may be called a decent kind of dependence, are far heavier to bear than the deprivation of many comforts. From the master of the house, indeed, he suffered very little, as that gentleman seldom honored him with his notice, unless it was in pretty open hints now and then delivered to his wife, in the presence of Franks, that he could not see the use of parsons; that in general they were a set of idle fellows, living upon the labors of other people; that he had as lief have the d——l in his house as a parson, and so on; but as these and such like hints were always given in a short, broken, unconnected manner, and generally upon the happening of some tiff, as it is vulgarly called, between Mr. and Mrs. Bennet, Franks found means to repress that resentment, which, in spite of all his determinations, would sometimes arise. But the temper of Mrs. Bennet he found intolerable; and the insolence of her son, if possible, still worse; added to this, the mortifications he daily met with

from

from the indecent behaviour of the servants; a set of people, who, as it hath been observed by many, always proportion their regard to you, by that degree of respect which they observe you meet with from their masters. In this impertinence they were rather encouraged than otherwise, by the lady; one instance of which, out of an hundred, we have in our possession, and will give, in order to let the reader see, it is not always that superior qualifications meet with superior attention.

Mr. Franks was one day going up stairs to his room, when a footman happening to be descending, not only with much impudence took the wall, but pushed Mr. Franks very violently upon the narrow part of the stairs; (Mr. Franks not being allowed the freedom of the grand stair-case) so that that gentleman was in imminent danger of falling. Upon his reproving the servant for his rudeness, he gave so provoking an answer, that Mr. Franks could not refrain from giving the fellow a hearty shaking, with which, however, he contented himself, promising nevertheless that his master should hear of his impudent behaviour; the fellow went down into the kitchen, muttering something about parsons and petticoats,

petticoats, of which Mr. Franks took no notice.

The bustle this created in the house would soon have carried the affair to the ears of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet; but Mr. Franks found himself too much hurt to suffer it to come forward in such a course; he immediately, therefore, applied to Mrs. Bennet, and complained of the unprovoked rudeness of her servant towards him; nothing doubting, but that, upon a proper representation of it, the fellow would have been instantly discharged; but if he expected this, it did not happen; the lady only answering in a cool and unconcerned manner, "Very well, I can't attend to this quarrel of my servant and you. just now, I'll see about it, as you quarrel so you must be friends again."— Astonished at this, he intreated her to consider his situation in her family, his engagement with her son, his profession, and to feel for him as a gentleman; she laughed at the word gentleman, and repeating it with a very witty look, desired he would not trouble her then, as she was busy, and could not attend to him; adding, "I tell you, Mr. Gentleman, I'll see about it bye and bye," and ordered him, in no very polite strain,

to

to leave the room, and attend to his pupil.

Mr. Franks could not obtain any other conversation before dinner time; when, there happening to be no company, he took his seat at the lower end of the table; the servant who had abused him, together with another, waited; and he thought he discerned in the sauciness of the fellow's look, that he had been with his mistress, this agitated him extremely, and it was with some difficulty he could preserve a proper decorum — The middle of the dinner was arrived, when Mrs. Bennet spoke in the following manner: "Pray, " Mr. Franks, what was the matter between Thomas and you this morning? " I declare I never heard in my life such a to do!" Franks, unwilling an opportunity like this should pass, of meeting his adversary face to face, immediately recounted the whole transaction; and after having descanted with some degree of warmth upon the insolence of the servant, he concluded with asking Mr. Bennet, whether he would tolerate such behaviour from a footman to the tutor of his son? " Why, look'ee, " Mr. — What's your name," returned Bennet, " I'll be very plain with you, " I want no such people as tutors in " my

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“ my house, and if I might have had
“ my way, the boy should have been
“ sent to school, and not have loun-
“ ged about at home to do nothing;
“ but Mrs. Bennet must be like the
“ quality, and so the boy will be ru-
“ ined.”—“ Why sure, Mr. Bennet,”
replied the lady, hastily, “ you must
“ have lost your wits to talk in this
“ manner; it has nothing at all to do
“ with the present subject; however,
“ for once, I'll answer for you. I have
“ heard the story, Mr. Franks, and am
“ surprised you should altogether have
“ behaved as you have done.—I don't
“ allow my servants to be impertinent
“ to any body, but I shan't allow you
“ neither to strike my servants, I pro-
“ mise you, Sir, and I think it was ta-
“ king a very unbecoming liberty in
“ you to strike Thomas, who has al-
“ ways behaved himself as a good ser-
“ vant.”—“ Yes,” said Thomas, “ and
“ I can always make a shift to get a
“ good coat, which is more than some
“ people can always do.” He accom-
panied this expression with one of those
looks, of which those who never saw,
or at least observed, the saucy leer of
some of the party colored gentry, can
have no adequate idea, even though it
were described to them. It was too
much

much for the patience of Mr. Franks to bear, already pretty much loaded, "Rascal," said he, "do you mean to insult me before your master, and before my pupil? another word, and my cane in the corner there shall reach your scoundrel shoulders."— "Your cane!" returning the serving man, "I don't think you're worth one." "—Hold your tongue, Thomas," said Mrs. Bennet, "this moment. As for you, Mr. Franks, you might have known your place better than to have created this dispute at my table. I wonder you dare take such liberties, Sir, in a house, into which you was taken from starving!"—"Do you reproach me, Madam, for my poverty? know that I was born to better fortunes, and have a soul that is as much above the meanness of cringing dependence, as it is above those who would load me with its fetters: if you took me into your house to save me from starving, I thank you for the kindness of your intention; but if you mean to continue your favour to me, (you think your keeping me here such, doubtless) upon the hard terms through which I have till now enjoyed it, I must beg leave to acquaint you, that I prefer starving

" ing

“ ing to such favour : To bear with
“ the caprices, the frivolities of those,
“ to whom we owe the bread we eat,
“ is sometimes hard ; to bear with those
“ of persons, to whom we are allied by
“ no particular ties of obligation, is
“ still worse ; yet these may be endured
“ from necessity ; but to submit to the
“ insolence, the scurrility of block-
“ heads, and of blockheads too every
“ way inferior, is absolutely intolerable ; to this I have not learnt to sub-
“ mit, and though I have borne much
“ of it in this house hitherto, I must
“ now assure you, I neither can or will
“ bear it any longer.” At these words
he abruptly quitted the room, leaving
Mr. and Mrs. Bennet astonished at the
warmth of his manner and words, and
the more so, as they had never been ac-
customed to meet with any other than
the most respectful, not to say almost
obsequious behaviour, from this gentle-
man, whose great dread of a repetition
of his former sufferings, induced him
too frequently to forget what was due
to himself, and to put up with the most
neglectful and contemptuous treat-
ment, not only from Mr. and Mrs.
Bennet, but from Henry also.

Stung to the soul by this injurious
treatment, he at one moment resolved
upon

upon leaving the house immediately, but certain disagreeable reflections, which followed pretty closely upon the heels of this resolution, soon induced him to alter it, and to wait the issue of another interview with Mrs. Bennet.

And here, some of our readers, we doubt not, who, like the valiant hero of a certain author, have determined never to pocket an affront from any body, will blame Mr. Franks for want of a proper spirit upon this occasion ; nay, may without hesitation proceed to call him a low, pitiful, dastardly fellow, and to form their opinion of him accordingly ; with which opinion we should most heartily concur, did we not consider two things ; first, that the apparent alternative Franks had of quitting Mr. Bennet's house was starving, the fear or danger of which, these furious readers, like the abovesaid hero, may perhaps have never known ; secondly, that Mrs. Bennet did not, perhaps, wholly appear to Franks, in the same light she doth to the reader ; and he, therefore, was induced to indulge those hopes of justice, which such reader will probably think very ill-founded. Beside these two things, we also consider that the mind of a person actually engaged in certain situations, is very dif-

ferently worked upon, and influenced by its feelings to that of the by-stander; but these are so minute, and depend upon so many circumstances, that to attempt to account for them, would be ridiculous. We shall, therefore, only say, that in the present instance, and in all similar instances of dependence, there is a sort of game playing between the humours of the patron, and the feelings of the dependant, of the particular turns and movements of which, whatever may be the case with regard to other games, the players themselves, and not the by-standers, are certainly the best judges.

Upon a second interview with Mrs. Bennet, that lady, whose passion was now somewhat cooled, and who had reflected upon the difficulty of procuring another tutor for her son, who would submit to her tyranny as Franks had done, threw out a hint, that notwithstanding what had passed, he might stay if he pleased; but this he would by no means agree to, unless upon certain conditions, one of which was the discarding of the servant who had offended him. With this she would not comply; indeed the very mention of this condition so angered the lady, that a very severe altercation ensued, the consequence

consequence of which was, that Franks was to depart from the house within a week.

However short a time a week may seem to those, who live together in the habits of peace and friendship, it is sometimes found so very long by others, who are at variance, as to make it an impossibility for them to continue together, even for that time; and thus did it prove in the present case, for a fresh cause of dispute arose the very next day, which determined Franks upon an immediate departure from a house, in which, while he continued there, he could foresee nothing for himself but degrading and intolerable mortifications;—but we will here give the reader and ourselves a little respite, and as our young hero had a great share in this fresh disturbance, we shall defer the relation of it to a fresh chapter.

C H A P. VI.

In which will be found a speech of Mr. Franks.

ALTHOUGH the antients, as we have before observed, were certainly a set of very bloody-minded fellows, and probably much more addicted, in their practice, at least, if not in their dispositions, to war and slaughter, than most of their descendants; yet they had as certainly among them many virtues, to which most of their said descendants are absolute strangers; one of these in particular we will mention; an admiration and love of learning, and learned men, whose powers were of so much consequence among them, and held in such repute, that even kings and emperors themselves would do them homage. Now, among the moderns, this virtue, (which we have chosen so to denominate, because such an admiration and love appear to be somewhat inconsistent with the baseness of a vicious mind) this virtue, I say, among

among others, seems pretty nearly lost, or at least, is so rarely to be found, that a man of literature, so far from making his way to preferment, honor and riches, by the great knowledge he hath for many days and nights labored to gain, doth, in truth, not unfrequently become the imprisoned debtor of some lucre-seeking creditor, or if he hath the luck to escape the clutches of the bailiffs, it is only to experience every other wretchedness.

Among those of the moderns who thus held learned men in little respect, Mrs. Bennet was not the least, nor did this arise merely from her contempt of learning itself, but chiefly from a reason, which hath, we believe, induced many persons to similar sentiments on this head, namely, that it generally happens men of learning are somewhat defective in the principal recommendation to respect and esteem, the possession of riches, without which, the deepest knowledge or learning will very little avail in procuring their possessors the favor of the world.

Under this disadvantage it was the misfortune of Mr. Franks to labor, as the reader hath already seen, and it is not, therefore, so much to be wondered at, that he was treated with disrespect

by the heads of a family, who owed their present splendor to the power of riches alone.

Master Harry, who followed the steps of his mother pretty closely in general, did not fail to imitate her in her behaviour towards Mr. Franks, to whom he paid very little attention, often very rudely interrupting him when he was speaking; abruptly leaving his apartment in the middle of a lesson, and not unfrequently, when required by his tutor to attend his learning, evading such requisition, or flatly refusing to attend at all.

But if he was rude and neglectful in his behaviour to his tutor before, he was ten times more so after the disagreement we have mentioned; and to such a height did it arrive, that the next day, upon Mr. Franks somewhat sharply reproving him for some fault, the young gentleman very insolently bid him remember the affair of Thomas, and to take care, or else he would presently get himself turned out of doors; adding, “D—n me, if I think a poor “shabby fellow like you, should be “suffered to live like a gentleman in “such a house as my father’s.” It may well be supposed Mr. Franks did not fail very highly to resent such treatment

ment from the lad ; he represented it to Mrs. Bennet in very warm terms, and uttered one or two expressions concerning our hero, which entirely subdued the patience of his fond and partial mother, and in the end, Franks was paid his salary, and ordered to depart that very evening, or the next morning at farthest. Franks immediately betook himself to his room, in order to get ready for his departure. Having soon finished this task, it being indeed no Herculean one, he sought for Henry, in order to set before him, as he thought it his duty to do, the necessity of his taking some care to check a disposition, which he foresaw would, in its maturity, prove a foundation of misery, not only to his own peace, but to the happiness of all around him.

In the afternoon a favorable opportunity presented itself; our hero was observed by Franks to go into his apartment; whither that gentleman followed him, and having procured a promise of his attention for a few minutes, he thus addressed him :

“ I am going, Master Bennet, to leave a house this evening, in which, ever since my entrance into it, I have neither been treated with the civility

due to a stranger, or the respect which my profession, and the nature of my situation in the family claim; from yourself, in particular, notwithstanding the nature of your connection with me, I have experienced much neglect, which, perhaps, will upon reflection, give you more pain than it does to myself."

Harry colored at this, but said nothing;—Franks proceeded—

" I have industriously sought this opportunity of addressing you, that I might tell you, Sir, I very freely forgive the whole of your behaviour towards me; and that I might also give you such an assurance of my forgiveness, and even friendship, as might accord with the united characters of a clergyman, and your preceptor.—Hear then the few words I am going to say to you, with patience, and accept the advice they contain, as the best proof I can give you of that forgiveness and friendship I have mentioned.

" You are now arrived at those years, which should furnish you with sufficient discretion, to adopt or reject such a system of conduct as must appear either friendly or inimical to the interest of your virtue; yet I am sorry to say, I have observed you to fail in many things,

things, which are essentially necessary to your future welfare.

“ But before I mention one or two of these, I must tell you, that by the word welfare, I do not wholly mean the increase of your fortune; no, there are other matters beside riches, which are necessary to a man’s welfare, the principal of which is, an informed and well-regulated mind, and in this is indeed comprised the grand root of all that a man can or ought to wish for; let this be well remembered; for I must tell you again, what I have often mentioned to you, it is possible for a man to be very rich, and yet to be very unhappy; and, in truth, the richer he get the greater will his unhappiness be, unless he be possessed of that well-informed and regulated mind.

“ I have said there are many things I have observed you to be deficient in, I will mention two or three of them, and then with due reflection upon those, you will be able of yourself to see the others, and to amend them.

“ The first thing I would admonish you of is an overbearing spirit,—a spirit which very ill becomes a man at any time of life, but which in one so young as yourself is particularly obnoxious and disgusting; you must re-

collect you are not always to live in your father's house; the time will come when you must leave it, and go into the world; you will then meet with many persons who will neither behold you with the partiality of a parent, or the fear of a servant, and who, of course, will resent your haughty behaviour, and perhaps take a delight in plaguing you for shewing it, in many instances, in which you will find it impossible to help yourself, and in return for which, you can take no other revenge than the impotent one of anger, which is ever sure to destroy the peace of that bosom where it is unduly cherished. I would wish you also to remember, that it is possible for you to see that day, when those riches, the expectation of which is, I fear, the grand source of this overbearing disposition, may be lost to you, and you may be reduced to that poverty and dependence which you now so much deride. How will you bear such a change as this, with your present temper? how will it suit your haughty spirit to meet with those rebuffs from persons, who will be then above you, which you are now so apt to give to those, who are by the hand of Providence placed below you? let me ask you

you this question, it is a very fair one, Master Harry, and is worthy of your consideration."

Here Franks stopped a moment, and our hero blushed, but answered nothing;—Franks went on—

" What I said to you upon this disposition, may be applied to the cure of many others of a similar nature; I shall not, therefore, urge any more upon this, but proceed to mention another thing in which you are miserably deficient, and this is learning.

" By learning I do not mean an acquaintance with a few French and Latin phrases, or an Italian song, or so on; if these only were necessary to constitute a man of learning, many of those light, vain, empty persons, with whom you are in a daily habit of associating, might as well pass for men of learning, as any persons I know; but in fact, qualifications of this sort do much oftener shew a frothy mind than indicate genius or knowledge; it is necessary, before you can fairly lay claim to the title of a gentleman, that you have a competent and thorough knowledge of your own language, and of the genius and customs of the country of which you are a native; for without these, you will not only be unfit to mix with

men

men of learning or science, but you will become an object of contempt to your very servants and dependants. In the next place, you should endeavour to form an intimate and critical acquaintance with what are called the dead languages. Lord Chesterfield, in his Letters to his Son, (which by the bye I would advise you never to read, except under the immediate direction of some friend, adequate to the task of pointing out to you the defects and improprieties, as well as beauties of those Letters.) Lord Chesterfield, I say, in these Letters, says, that when we speak of a man of letters, we mean at least, that he is in possession of a critical understanding of the Greek and Latin languages, which that accomplished nobleman seems to consider as almost the very foundation of that literature, which every gentleman ought to be in possession of; without these, indeed, it is impossible you can understand, much less relish, the beauties of some of the most exalted and beautiful pieces of writing in the world; nor, ignorant of these, can you ever gain a just or necessary acquaintance with the manners and customs of the antients, of their learning or systems of polity, their forms of government or religion; all which

which things ought by no means to be strange to you, if you are anxious to deserve the title of an accomplished man. The modern languages ought likewise to engage a considerable portion of your study, but of these I shall say the less, as there are many sufficient inducements for a young man of fortune to wish for a knowledge of them, but yet I must insist to you, that *that* degree of knowledge with which most of the young men who have fallen under my observation seem to rest satisfied, is by no means sufficient for any man, who would aim at being respectable in every thing he undertakes.— But above all, every English gentleman should have a thorough knowledge of the constitution of his country. I do not mean by this, that he is to read every act of parliament that is passed, but that he should investigate the various modes and systems of its government, which have at different times prevailed; that he should have a just idea of the mutual dependence of the several branches of the government on each other, as it now stands, and that he should be sensible how far he is interested in the support and preservation of its rights, against the violence of

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open tyrants, or the insidious attacks of cunning and ambitious members of the state. On this head I could say much, but will now forbear; let what I have said, have a place in your recollection, and endeavour to encourage more of a disposition to learning than, since I have been with you, I have seen you manifest."

Here our hero began to shew some signs of impatience, which Franks observing, said, "I will not keep you five minutes; I am anxious to leave you in such a manner, as that of whatever little consequence what I may say, be in your regard, I may have the satisfaction of reflecting, that I have done my endeavour to discharge my duty." Upon this Harry seated himself quietly in his chair again, and Franks proceeded—

" You have likewise, I am sorry to see, several low and vicious habits which demand immediate correction; you are now old enough to discern them, and, if you will but take the trouble, to attend to their utter extinction.

" Without observing any thing upon the force and fatal prevalence of long indulged habits, upon which I have before frequently animadverted to you, I shall proceed to name two; the one of

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the mind, the other of the speech ; both, however, proceeding from nearly the same cause ; and what I say upon these, you may apply, generally speaking, to every low and vicious habit of which you know I have so frequently complained.

“ The first then, is of the mind, and this may be very properly called cunning ; a quality which is of so low and despicable a nature, that even the veriest plebeian you can meet, would blush to be taxed with the possession of it ;— its influences are highly pernicious to all virtue and nobleness of soul, and certain it is, it never does or can operate upon a liberal mind ; the most narrow are the most subject to its dictates, and in fact, it is the very characteristic of a little, sordid, groveling disposition. Having said this, it is almost unnecessary to add, that it leads those who attend to its impulses, to mean and knavish actions, and involves them consequently in shame and confusion ; that it renders such persons equally unmeet and dangerous associates for the good and for the bad of their species ; that it unfits them for the discharge of all the tender, social and delightful offices of humanity, and that no man, who is a gentleman, can endure the least

least idea of it ; that virtue and vice are not more widely different than are the analysis of this noxious quality, and that of true and dignified wisdom ; in short, when I see a cunning man, I behold a man to whom I could never give either my confidence or respect.

“ The other habit, Sir, to which I alluded, is that of swearing, which, indeed has of late gained much upon you ; this is not only a low, but it is also a wicked custom, and an indulgence of it is not a greater proof of a weak head, than it is of a bad heart , upon the impiety of it I shall not enlarge, though that is its most important consequence, because your own reflection will paint to you the sin of profaning a name, which all ages and countries have, under certain ideas and symbols, held sacred for their worship and adoration. I will rather apply myself for a moment to expose the fallacy of the idea, which seems so greatly to prevail, that an oath is a kind of beauty and embellishment of speech ; strange, that such unnatural and disordered ideas of beauty should ever gain a place in the human breast, since it appears to be one of the first requisite beauties of language, that it should be suitable not only to the occasion upon which it is used

used, but also to the place in which it is uttered, and to the persons to whom it is addressed ; if, therefore, a proper idea of the use and nature of language be necessary to every gentleman, no person who is ambitious to maintain and adorn that character, will ever be found to encourage a propensity to swearing, since such a practice must presently expose him, as one ignorant of the first principles of one of the most important branches of polite and gentleman-like education.

“ There is another argument against swearing, which, however old or common-place it may be with many, I will venture to repeat to you ; it is, that while you give yourself up to a habit of swearing, you are by your language levelling yourself with the most despicable of mankind, and if you can be so gross in your conception as to think it a qualification, you will remember it is a qualification in which you are certain to be excelled by every rude and boisterous fellow, of the lowest rank ; for in truth, the very road to excellence, (if I may use that word upon such a subject) in this, is the very reverse of that to excellence in all great and amiable qualifications, the nearer you approach that excellence, the greater

ter will be your debasement, infamy and disgrace.

" What I have now said to you, Sir, you may, perhaps, hereafter think of; the greater part of it may, indeed, be considered only as an enforcement of these necessary general principles of action; kindness to those below you, honor towards your equals, and a proper dignity of innocence and truth in all you say and do."

If the former part of this long speech had a tendency to rouse our hero to impatience, certain it is the latter part of it had a much more pleasant effect upon him; it was not indeed ill said by Mr. Franks, that ~~HEREAFTER~~, perhaps, his pupil might think of what he had said; for in fact, so far was he from thinking of it *at present*, that Franks, who had been too much taken up to make particular observations, had no sooner arrived at the conclusion of it, than he found the young gentleman journeying very fast towards a sound and refreshing nap, and as it is probable towards such nap; the reader himself may be much inclined, we, willing to indulge him in all lawful desires, will put an end to this chapter.

C H A P. VII.

Being the last chapter of the first book of this history.

MR. Franks perceiving the condition of our hero, went out of the room without further ceremony ; to confess the truth, he was not a little mortified that he had been at some pains to collect his ideas for so negligent and inattentive an auditor, and was too angry to take any particular leave of him ; quitting the room, therefore, he gave directions to one of the servants concerning what little stock of apparel he had acquired, sallied out of the house without the usual ceremony of departure, and hastened without delay to his friend, the doctor.

He found him at home ; but ah, no longer did he appear to be his friend ! Certain of a kind reception, he took the doctor by the hand ; but that gentleman withdrew his hand hastily, and asked him, with no little perturbation of speech and countenance, if he had left

Mr.

Mr. Bennet's. "I have," replied Franks; "but why, my dear friend, "this strangeness?" Without attending to the questioning part of his answer, the doctor said, in a very grave tone, and with as grave a countenance, "Why then, Sir, I think you "haye done a very foolish action."— "If you have heard any thing of the "matter," cried Franks, "you must "have heard my reasons for this con- "duct, and surely those not only jus- "tify it, but compelled it."—"What- "ever I have heard," said the doctor, angrily, "I must tell you, you have "acted like a madman, to leave such "a situation as that for a hot word or "two. Go, go, it is impossible to "serve you, I see it is, you are too "high and too proud to be assisted." With these words he made a motion for Franks to depart; Franks attempted to speak, but the doctor would not permit it. "I have heard all," said he, "I know the whole story, if I "did not, I should not act as I do. "You knew you are in my debt, I "mention it only to tell you I forgive "you the whole, and only desire, that "a man who has acted so unaccount- "ably as you have done, will not "henceforward look to me for friend- "ship or assistance."

Finding it impossible at this time to gain a hearing, Mr. Franks departed, but not without the hope that a new day would be more favorable to him with his friend, at whose anger on this occasion, from a consciousness of not deserving it, he was utterly astonished and confounded. Under the hope we have mentioned, he called upon the doctor the next day, who, though he saw him at the window, was not at home. Franks too well understood the meaning of this, to renew his visit, and indeed so greatly was he shocked at this behaviour towards him, from a man who had a little time before been so much his friend, that he felt but little disposition to meet him again. After wandering about the town some time, with the vain hope of meeting employment suited to his talents and profession, he at last abandoned it, and determined, with the few pounds he had left, to seek in some foreign country that assistance and support, he could not meet with in his own.

Some of our readers may be inclined, we suppose, to cast much blame upon the doctor for his conduct in this instance towards his friend; but there are two things with which we are bound by historic truth and fidelity to acquaint

acquaint these readers, and which must be considered by them before they pronounce judgment; the first of these is, that the doctor had heard of this situation for Franks, at either the third or fourth hand; and it was at such a hand that he likewise had the reasons of his friend's relinquishment of it; now these reasons, although they were given at the first hand by Mrs. Bennet herself, were not, we are sorry to say, altogether the true ones; and if at the first hand they were unfairly stated, it is not much to be wondered at, if they came to the doctor's knowledge as reasons very unfavorable to his poor friend. the second of these is, that in most affairs similar to this, the injuring and not the injured party gain the greatest credit, and especially if it happen, as it did in this case, that they are likewise the accusing party. Added to this, the vexation which a man feels when that person whom he hath gladly exerted himself to serve, appears to have wilfully diserved himself, is of all others the greatest; and when all these things meet together, and operate upon a disposition rather inclined to the irascible, it would have been more surprising if such a man as the doctor had been complaisant

complaisant to his friend, than that he should be, as he really was, determined not to serve him any more. Not that we absolutely defend the doctor's determination, but allowances must be made in all such cases for those weaknesses and mistakes, to which humanity is deplorably subject.

But if the doctor's conduct appear strange and blameable to such readers, Mrs. Bennet's must appear much more so. Why, without any apparent reason, she should take part with her footman against Mr. Franks, and appear so much that gentleman's enemy as she did, is indeed wonderful; upon this we shall only say, we do not think ourselves obliged to account for every transaction we record in this history. There are many ladies, who, like Mrs. Bennet, do so act, that not other people only, but even themselves, would be at a loss to find out good reasons for their actions, if they were called upon for them; certain it is, Mrs. Bennet did prefer her footman to her son's tutor; but as it is also certain, that many women have been found to prefer their footman to all others, without giving any reason for it, so we hope that our curious readers will rest satisfied with knowing that

that the fact was as we have stated it, without puzzling themselves in searching for reasons, which, as they never were given, so they never will be found.

END OF THE FIRST BOOK.

also ion jewell of com. 700 blood
from fresh berries may stimulate when
young but will not do much good.
Dried berries are good for the old and
will not only quench thirst but
will also stop the flow of blood
from the nose. Do not eat berries
as soon as possible as they will
not all get out and will be
eaten by the birds and the like.

BOOK

BOOK THE SECOND.

C H A P. I.

N O T I T L E.

FORTUNA multis dat nimis, satis nulli, is certainly as true an observation as any Martial himself, or any other writer, whether of high or low renown, ever made, and most clearly proves, that things in general, whatever some people may assert to the contrary, went on pretty much the same in his days as they do in ours, that is to say, not as they should do; since it shews not only that many persons got a great deal more than they deserved, but that no man, whatever he might get, was ever found to confess he had enough. Now this observation will hold good, not only with regard to the gifts of fortune, but to all those other acquisitions of various kinds, as of praise, admiration, flattery, &c. which mankind are in general so desirous of making. Very apposite and notable instances of the truth of this are daily furnished by many great and good men, who, notwithstanding their wisdom or philosophy in other things, have in this frequently been

found so weak, and so much off their guard, as by no means to feel themselves perfectly satisfied with the performance of a noble or beneficent action, or with those pleasures which are said to flow from such performances, and which have been learnedly and largely expatiated upon by certain modern ingenious writers, but rather very warmly, and eagerly to seek the applause which they might naturally expect, at least hope for, as the result of their generosity or self-denial. Hence it is, we presume, that at, or about the season of Christmas, we not unfrequently find it published to the world, in those pleasant and witty sheets, called newspapers, that his Grace the Duke of ——, the Earl of ——, of Sir George ——, hath, out of the moderate income of twenty thousand pounds a year, been generously pleased to give and distribute among the poor people in his neighbourhood, (in number, perhaps, about one hundred) a whole ox, with bread and beer in proportion, and, perhaps, the sum of one shilling apiece, in addition to the above largesses, which ox, bread, beer, &c. we are inclined to suppose, the noble patron undoubtedly thinketh will last the said poor till the following Christmas,

mas, as we have never obferved the public to have been advertised of any fimilar donations, till the revolution of that festival. I say, this great man, not finding it true that such actions of beneficence do amply reward him in the performance; or, perhaps, not greatly relishing such reward alone, hath caused the fame to be published abroad, that he may not be defrauded of that public applause which such bounty most surely deserves. Others again, not content with having seen in foreign countries many great and marvellous things, and, covetous of that kind of praise which is so often bestowed upon them who have seen many things, by those who have seen nothing, publish certain pleasant itories of wonders and wonderful adventures, which they are pleased to call travels, much to the delight, amazement and information of such ignorant and unknowing persons, as have been unfortunately confined all their days within the bounds of their native country; doubtless hoping thereby, to come in for a greater share of praise and admiration, than they are likely to obtain from the contracted circle of a few private friends and acquaintance; and many others there are, whom we cannot now mention, whose desires

are as various as their persons; equally discontented with their portion of what they esteem desirable, and equally greedy of a larger share than they already possess. Exactly different from all such persons, was the gentleman, whom, in the succeeding chapter, we shall introduce to the reader's notice: —so moderate, indeed, will he be found in his desires of public applause, and so little addicted to trumpet forth his actions, that, on the contrary, he will appear amazingly solicitous to hide those actions from the eyes and knowledge of every one; a remarkably invincible kind of modesty, for which many gentlemen, much to the felicity of certain calumniators, and sometimes as much to the surprize of their friends, have at different times been particularly famous.

C H A P. II

The contents of which the reader will be acquainted with when he hath read it through.

A Very short time after the departure of Mr. Franks from the house of Mrs. Bennet, that lady was provided with a second tutor for her son, the very reverse, both in character and appearance, to Mr. Franks. The father of this man had been a barber, in a distant obscure village, and at his death left the shop and business to his son, who was in fact an excellent shaver, but being of an ambitious nature, was by no means contented with his employment; he therefore quitted it, and went to another part of the country. Being possessed of a little money, he took a house, and set up a school, and in the mean time was very industrious to make himself acquainted with as much of the Latin and Greek as would answer the twofold purpose he had in view, namely, to obtain an

ordination into the church, and an estimation among certain of his neighbours, as a man of much learning, nor indeed, did he require any great stock of either for these purposes, for he was an excellent contriver at making (to use a common expression) a little go a great way, and thereby, to say the truth, hangs a notable secret, which we shall not divulge, only observing, that it is really astonishing how much learning we have seen quick-witted men display, who, to our certain knowledge, have scarcely ever read a line of either antient history or philosophy, and whose acquaintance with their mother tongue is of that distant kind which we call slender. But to return; Mr. Diphthong, for that was the name of this man, contrived to get into orders somehow or other, and though he lost a small curacy he procured soon after he had obtained orders, yet he contrived not only to live, but had actually amased at the time he came to Mr. Bennet's, the sum of seven or eight hundred pounds.

This was the person who succeeded Mr. Franks as tutor to Master Henry Bennet, and indeed he was much more fortunate than his predecessor had been, for

for whereas that gentleman, though he possessed every requisite accomplishment for the situation, could gain the favor of nobody; this, with every deficiency, was presently the favorite of everybody.—With regard to his pupil indeed, it was a matter of no great surprise that the young gentleman grew exceedingly fond of him, the worthy preceptor being by no means particular as to the exactness of his scholar in his exercises, and as the doctrines he frequently laid down to him were of a much more pleasant and alluring nature, than were the precepts of Mr. Franks, who was indeed reckoned by our hero the most austere and ill-natured man in the world. So highly delighted was Mrs. Bennet with the attention of Mr. Diphthong towards her son, that she could not refrain from honoring him with many tokens of her favor, and indeed these were so many, that the footman himself, though, as his mistress said, a very diligent and active servant, began to lose ground in his lady's esteem; indeed this may be in some degree accounted for by the knowledge she had acquired in the science of physiognomy, which she not only studied very deeply, but also applied to certain objects which, from

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their superior beauty, were always sure to attract attention from her, so that we may reasonably conclude she was one of those persons who suppose all virtue to centre in beauty, or, to express it differently, that nothing outwardly harmonious and beautiful could be vicious or deformed within; a subject which the ingenious Lavater hath most learnedly and elaborately discussed. Certain it is, that there was something in the personal appearance of this tutor, infinitely more pleasing, at least in the lady's eye, than in that of Mr. Franks, and as certain too it is, that he reaped no unpleasant fruits from this happy propensity of his exterior.

Nor were Mrs. Bennet and her son the only persons in this family who discerned the merit of Diphthong; even Titus himself was almost reconciled to the idea of having a parson in his house by the behaviour of his son's tutor.—To say the truth, he was an easy companion, and particularly handy on many of those occasions to both the master and mistress of the house, in which the pride of his predecessor had not permitted him to serve; and in particular, he greatly gained the heart of Titus, by his patience under those jests.

jest of which he was very fond, and of which he would not unfrequently make Diphthong the subject, when he had any company whom he wished particularly to entertain; all which the tutor ever bore without reluctance.

Thus happily situated, he continued for a long time enjoying the great favor and friendship both of the lady and her husband, for although these two were so ill agreed, that they had not one opinion of any thing in the world beside, yet so exquisitely did he manage, as to make them both think well of him, though this arose, as it does indeed in many other similar cases, from their not being admitted by him to an acquaintance with the whole of his character, he exhibiting to them only so much of it as he thought prudent and necessary.

Every day too gained him the increasing affections of our hero, and by no means were they more securely won than by the frequent jests he made of the primitive notions of the late tutor; this, Diphthong was sagacious enough presently to find, and did not fail to apply them on proper occasions. Sometimes, when Harry related to him some of the virtuous maxims of Franks, he

would laugh outright, at other times gently smile, then draw his mouth close again, turn up his eyes a little, and with a slight shrug of the shoulders, would say, " Well, Sir, every man " must believe as he likes, but for my " part, I could never see the utility of " such amazing gravity, — it always " looks suspicious; when a man would " make the world believe he is pos- " sessed of supererogatory virtue, I am al- " ways inclined to think he is not pos- " sessed of any virtue at all. Besides, as " I have often said, it is not for gentle- " men of large fortunes, like you, to " be so very particular; do as much " good as you can certainly, but as for " being so very particular, that is not for " such a great gentleman as you will " be, Sir: no, it is only necessary for " such as myself, as have our bread " to get; and then, as for poring over " books and the like, why should a " gentleman, like you, plague your- " self? have not you every thing you " can want? certainly you have, and " you are to enjoy it. — I may be fond " of reading learned books, but then it " is my profession, and I must either do " it or starve." After the words po- " verty, starve, &c. which Diphthong fre- " quently applied to himself, and his own " case,

case, a fit, deep and heavy, would generally follow, which oftentimes so moved the affectionate heart of our young hero, that he would promise on such occasions, and ratify it with an oath, that he would get his father to give Diphthong a good living, two or three of which, he said, his father had to dispose of; for all which promises Diphthong did not fail to thank him very often, gently intimating how welcome such a gift would be to a poor parson.

About this time, a circumstance happened, which put the gratitude of our hero to the proof, as his tutor conferred on him a favor, which, to many young men of spirit and fortune, would be one of the greatest and most valuable, in their estimation, they could possibly receive; but what this favor was, and what were the consequences of it, we shall not relate in this chapter.

CHAP. III.

In which will be found that which could not be discovered in the last chapter.

IT was a pretty frequent custom with Mr. Diphthong, when the weather permitted, to walk out after dinner for an hour,

hour, in order, as he said, to relax his mind from study, by a contemplation, or in a view of the more busy and active scenes of life; — it very rarely happened, that Harry accompanied him in these excursions, as he seemed generally desirous of walking alone; but having one day invited that young gentleman to walk, they went together; in the course of this perambulation, the conversation turned, as indeed it frequently did, upon sundry religious and ethical hypotheses, which Diphthong very strenuously maintained, and endeavored to inculcate into his pupil, and which indeed highly deserved the title of Epicurean; from these he deduced certain pernicious principles, with which he daily poisoned the mind of our hero, who was by no means naturally averse to those laxative systems of philosophy, which do not seem less prevalent among the moderns, than they were formerly among certain of the ancients.

Our hero and his worthy tutor had not walked long, before the latter recollects a promise made by him of calling upon a very near relation who had lately come to live in that neighbourhood, and he was the rather desirous, he said, of taking that opportunity

nity of fulfilling it, not only because it was his interest, as well as pleasure, to oblige her, but also because he was desirous of introducing him, Harry to the most amiable and accomplished woman in the world. The young gentleman consented to accompany Diphthong in his visit, and accordingly was introduced by him to his cousin, Miss Barnes, by whom they were received with all imaginable politeness, accompanied nevertheless with some gentle chidings administered to Diphthong, for his long and unkind absence; these he rallied off, and the conversation took so pleasant a turn, and the lady bore her part in it with so much ease and vivacity, that it was with infinite reluctance young Bennet departed with his tutor from the enchanting scene, after it had continued the full space of an hour.

Two whole days passed, in which nothing material enough to merit relation happened, before our hero could prevail upon himself to open his mind to the worthy preceptor; but on the third, when a'one with that gentleman, he could not refrain from asking him after his charming cousin. "A bag-
" gage!" cries Diphthong, "I have this
" very morning received a note from
" her,

“ her, inviting me to take tea in the
“ afternoon, and particularly asking
“ the favour of your company; for my
“ part, Sir, I do not know how it is,
“ but somehow or other she seems won-
“ derfully delighted with you, and she
“ begs—but here, Sir, take the letter,
“ and see what she says.” Our hero
eagerly feized the note, and read as
follows :

To the Rev. Mr. Diphthong.

“ DEAR COZ.

“ YOU must not fail me at tea
“ this afternoon; and pray remember
“ to bring young Bennet in your hand,
“ if he will do me the honor of his
“ company. Upon my life, Coz, that
“ is a charming young fellow. I should
“ have thought you had a design upon
“ my heart, by introducing him to me,
“ but that you are so well acquainted
“ with my aversion both to the state,
“ and to the men in general, who, you
“ must acknowledge, are a set of de-
“ ceitful, wicked wretches altogether.
“ Ah, in what person of your sex can I
“ ever hope to meet with sufficient
“ generosity and tenderness, to make
“ me amends for the villainy of Jack-
“ son, who you know, not only rob-
“ bed me of my peace, but of my
“ property also; but hence remem-
“ brance

“ brance sad,—adieu, don’t be fool
 “ enough to let what I have said of
 “ your pupil be seen; he’s a charm-
 “ ing young fellow, and that’s the
 “ truth. — I know you will laugh at
 “ me; well, well, do so, I laugh at
 “ myself. Good bye, at fix you and
 “ your friend must come and enter-
 “ tain me. — I feel positively very
 “ strangely this morning. Yours,

“ A. BARNES.”

Whether the strangeness of Miss Barnes’s humor, or whether a bad pen or bad ink was the occasion of this note being unintelligible in the writing, or whether it was really so unintelligible, we know not; but certain it is, that from some such reason, or from some other, young Bennet, who could read as well as most young men of fashion, was a full quarter of an hour before he reached the end of it. Diphthong observed this, and asked him if it was written so badly he could not make it out? “ Written so badly!” exclaimed our hero, “ by heaven she writes like an angel!” — Diphthong at this affected a very hearty laugh. Henry cried out, “ You must make me better acquainted with her, Diphthong; by G—d, she is the most lovely woman I ever beheld!” Diphthong answered he had no objection, but one, to cement

ment an intimacy between them, but that was a very important one. "Name it! name it!" cried our hero; "tell me what it is." After some little hesitation, Diphthong told him, his objection was no other than the fear of such an affair coming to the ears of his father and mother. "Not," says he, "that there is any greater harm in an intimate acquaintance with a beautiful young woman, than in such an acquaintance with an ugly old one, but the world will judge. Caution is therefore necessary; neither is there any real evil in many of those things, as I have often shewn you, which ill-natured people censure; but nevertheless, it is requisite, we do not always let the world know that we allow ourselves an indulgence in them, since such a knowledge would often prove very inimical to our interest with mankind.—In the first place, then, before we move a step further, I must enjoin, Sir, the strictest silence on your part, with regard to our visits to my cousin.—I shall walk out as usual, and you know you may every now and then accompany me; but unless you will promise me this, and to grant me a favor I shall have to ask of you very shortly, conditionally,

upon

" upon your finding the friendship of
" my cousin a pleasant acquisition, I
" must beg to decline introducing you
" again to her." Here Henry inter-
rupted Diphthong; he swore secretly
with much vehemence, and also made a
promise of ratifying it with sundry
oaths; he vowed there was nothing in or
out of his power that he would leave un-
attempted in favor of Diphthong, pro-
vided he would but bring about an in-
timacy between him and Miss Barnes.
Diphthong then said, he would beg to
remind him, that the living of _____,
in the gift of his father, was then va-
cant, and he hoped the procuring of
that for him would not be thought too
great a favor, which hope Henry in-
stantly confirmed, and assured him he
would mention it to his mother, who
did not then know any thing of the
matter, and would procure her to pre-
vail upon his father to present him to
the living, if he would use all the in-
fluence he seemed to possess over his
cousin, in his, Henry's behalf. To this
condition Diphthong readily agreed,
and they then, for that time, parted:
Henry, exulting over Miss Barnes's bet-
ter, which he insisted upon keeping,
and Diphthong, no less happy in the
contemplation of his living, than im-
patient.

ment an intimacy between them, but that was a very important one. "Name it! name it!" cried our hero; "tell me what it is?" After some little hesitation, Diphthong told him, his objection was no other than the fear of such an affair coming to the ears of his father and mother. "Not," says he, "that there is any greater harm in an intimate acquaintance with a beautiful young woman, than in such an acquaintance with an ugly old one, but the world will judge: Caution is therefore necessary; neither is there any real evil in many of those things, as I have often shewn you, which ill-natured people censure; but nevertheless, it is requisite, we do not always let the world know that we allow ourselves an indulgence in them, since such a knowledge would often prove very inimical to our interest with mankind.—In the first place, then, before we move a step further, I must enjoin, Sir, the strictest silence on your part, with regard to our visits to my cousin.—I shall walk out as usual, and you know you may every now and then accompany me; but unless you will promise me this, and to grant me a favor I shall have to ask of you very shortly, conditionally,

upon

" upon your finding the friendship of
" my cousin a pleasant acquisition, I
" must beg to decline introducing you
" again to her." Here Henry inter-
rupted Diphthong; he swore secrecy
with much vehemence, and also made a
promise of ratifying it with sundry
oaths; he vowed there was nothing in or
out of his power that he would leave un-
attempted in favor of Diphthong, pro-
vided he would but bring about an in-
timacy between him and Miss Barnes.
Diphthong then said, he would beg to
remind him, that the living of _____,
in the gift of his father, was then va-
cant, and he hoped the procuring of
that for him would not be thought too
great a favor, which hope Henry in-
stantly confirmed, and assured him, he
would mention it to his mother, who
did not then know any thing of the
matter, and would procure her to pre-
vail upon his father to present him to
the living, if he would use all the in-
fluence he seemed to possess over his
cousin, in his, Henry's behalf. To this
condition Diphthong readily agreed,
and they then, for that time, parted:
Henry, exulting over Miss Barnes's bet-
ter, which he insisted upon keeping,
and Diphthong, no less happy in the
contemplation of his living, than im-
patient

patient for the realization of those lovely tythes, which, than all the charms of his cousin, or a thousand other women put together, it would give him far greater pleasure to behold.

But, lest our readers should conceive that an unnatural scheme was laid by Diphthong for the ruin of so near a relation as a cousin, and should therefore either impute the crime of horrid baseness to that gentleman, or be under great concern for the virtue and reputation of Miss Barnes, we shall, out of compassion to the feelings of such benevolent readers, hasten to acquaint them with certain circumstances, of which they ought not indeed to be kept in ignorance.

C. H. A. P. IV.

Intended for the profit of all tutors and companions, who are desirous of the good opinion of their employers.

TH E R E were two qualifications or objects, towards which the ambition of Mr. Diphthong was not a little affected,

affected, and these were learning and riches; but so differently constituted were his regards towards each of these, that of the former he sought nothing more than the mere fame or reputation, while of the latter he most ardently desired not only the fame, but the acquisition too; he was, indeed, one of those, who pay so little respect to common report on this latter head, that he would willingly have been possessed of the most valuable living in the country, at the expence of being thought and talked of by his neighbours as a man proportionably poor.

Whilst, therefore, he was contented to possess of learning only so much as might induce those with whom he associated to esteem him a man of letters, he was anxiously solicitous to attain the real possession of some such living. How to bring about that event had been for some time his study, and many were the persons to whom he had assiduously paid his court, whom he had flattered, and to whom he had both sworn and lyed, to complete his purpose, but in vain;— still nothing damped, or repulsed, he continued to watch for the moment, which, according to the poet, if it be not neglected, “may lead a man to fortune.” The present appeared to him to

to be that moment, and he accordingly resolved to seize it ; yet, as a cautious commander, who, fearful of rousing a brave and powerful enemy by too hostile an appearance, puts up with the trouble of many martial feints, before he strike the decisive blow, or, which is still more to our purpose, like an artful, designing and ambitious prince, who, before he will venture to clap the yoke of slavery upon his people's neck, first of all endeavours, by various means of luxury and refinement, to weaken in their souls their attachment to liberty, industry and virtue, so did Diphthong long endeavour to do away what sense of virtue might have been planted in the bosom of his pupil, by the admonitions of Franks, and to introduce in its stead certain loose and vicious principles, better calculated to produce the desired effect, before he ventured to put in practice a scheme he had formed, by which he hoped to arrive at the object of his wishes. Luckily for himself, as it may appear, he found the task of corrupting our hero no very difficult one; and this completed to his desire, he hesitated no longer to introduce him to his worthy and amiable cousin, who, if the reader hath not already apprehended

hended it, we must now acquaint him, was neither more nor less than a common woman of the town, with whom he for some time before had formed a connection, and now planned a scheme, not only for the purpose of obtaining the living, (which part of the secret, indeed, he kept to himself,) but for the purpose also of pocketing some of that cash, in which his employer, Titus Bennet, did seem so exceedingly to abound, it being agreed between them, that of the money, &c. that might be obtained from Henry, by the artifices of Miss Barnes, one half should be by that lady given to Mr. Diphthong, for his trouble in procuring the prey. This scheme appeared fair and promising; how far the first part of it succeeded, viz. the entangling our hero with a desire towards this pretended cousin, the reader hath already seen, we shall now proceed to relate the sequel.

In the afternoon, as was before agreed, Diphthong and our hero went to pay their promised visit to Miss Barnes, who received her cousin with much affection, and Henry with the greatest cordiality and politeness. But who, if that youth was enchanted before, what were his raptures at this time? Miss Barnes had, with a careful negligence,

gence, added to her charms, which indeed were of themselves powerfully attractive, every art of dress which could be contrived to excite in his bosom the fierceness of wild and unruful desire.—To madden him the more, she made him at his entrance into the room take his seat by her, and frequently took occasion for alluring attitudes; would smile with a bewitching softness in her eye, then blush, and, in short, make use of every enchanting art, so well known to ladies of a certain description:—The conversation turned much on love, she insisted greatly upon the depravity of the men; Henry endeavored to defend his sex, she would reply, and in the moment of warm argument, take his hand, and when she expressed her distant hope of seeing virtue generosity and truth in man, would gently squeeze it, then let it go, blush again, and beg a thousand pardon for the freedom.—Thus pleasantly did as much of this evening pass as they could devote to Miss Barnes, without exciting the suspicions of those at home by the length of their stay. The moment of departure at last arrived, in spite of all the endeavors of Barnes and our hero to defer it; Diphthong infisted with an appearance of raillery, that

they were certainly both in love, but that they must take another opportunity of improving it, and immediately took his hat and cane. Henry at length followed his example, and took his leave of the lady, who, at parting, furnished him not only with a joint invitation to visit her with her cousin, but at the same time with a glance of the eye, and gentle pressure of the hand, which might be fairly said to intoxicate every remaining portion of sense our hero had left.

So gradually, yet so securely, did Diphthong and his coadjutrix work upon Henry, that several visits past between them before he, although more and more inflamed with desire at every visit, could prevail upon himself to make any overtures of particular love to Miss Barnes; there was something in her beauty which so dazzled and confounded him, that, though a lad of no small confidence and assurance, he could not venture to approach her with any thing like the air of a favored and happy lover.

At length, however, thinking Henry properly subjected to the influence of Miss Barnes, it was agreed upon, that at the next visit, Diphthong should, upon some pretence or other, leave him alone with

with his cousin, in a situation most likely to effect their first effort towards the purpose they had in view; accordingly, it happened the next time they called, Miss Barnes was much indisposed, and confined to her bed; Diphthong, however, had very urgent business with his cousin, and must see her; they, therefore, walked into the dining room, where our hero waited some little time, while Diphthong went into his cousin's room. After some minutes conversation with Miss Barnes, Diphthong returned to Henry, loaded with compliments and apologies from his cousin, and with information also, that if he would excuse the freedom, she would be happy to see him, poorly as she was, a few minutes in her room. Overjoyed at such an unexpected invitation, which he hesitated not to accept, and having conveyed into his countenance as much concern as he thought decent or necessary for the occasion, he entered the chamber; he was desired, with numberless ceremonies, and many blushes and apologies, on the part of the lady, to take a seat. Diphthong pleading an excuse for an unavoidable absence, which was accepted by the company, left the room: No sooner were they alone, than the lady, raising herself a little in the bed, drew forth

forth from her bosom a deep sigh, and from each of her lovely eyes a shining tear; these called our hero in language he could not resist; he approached the bed, and taking her hand, which lay indeed ready for his touch, he begged to know the cause of such emotion; another sigh came forth more heavy than the former, and two fresh tears started, and rolled down her cheek, upon our hero's hand; again he intreated to know the cause of her distress. — Still she hesitated, and another sigh seemed laboring in her breast, when Henry swore, that if she would confide to him the cause of her grief, no consideration upon earth should hinder him from relieving it. At length she faintly spoke, "Oh, Sir, " this is unexpected goodness, this is "kindness too great! but shall I trouble "you who are a stranger to me, with "sorrows, which those who ought to be "my friends, will not relieve? shall I "burthen you with a tale of woe, who "as yet scarcely know me; which those "who are near to me refuse to hear? " — No, no, I cannot do this!" Here not one or two, but a multitude of tears assailed our hero, and he vowed he would relieve her distresses.

She then, after numberless expressions of gratitude for such uncommon, such

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unexpected goodness in a stranger, proceeded to relate a most moving tale, with which the great inventive genius of Mr. Diphthong had furnished her. In impressing it upon the heart of our deluded hero, every art of female eloquence was exerted, and she concluded with assuring him, that if certain of her debts were not dismissed in less than a week, she must expect the dreadful horrors of a prison for the remainder of her days.

We will not attempt to depicture the perturbation of our hero's mind, while he execrated the authors of her misfortunes, as well as those misfortunes themselves, and while he swore a week should not elapse, before the misery under which she labored, should be done away.

In the height of his phrenzy, and as he was clasping the fair one in his arms, and fondly assuring her of his love, Diphthong entered the room, and, with a face of great concern, informed her, that he had just left the person she wished him to see, but that he had proved inexorable to all his entreaties on her behalf, and insisted that she should either pay him the debt within four days, or go to prison. Fresh tears issued upon this intelligence from the eyes

eyes of the lady, and fresh assurances of redress from the lips of our hero, who at length departed, with a resolution to carry back with him the next day such a sum as he could collect together, for the relief of his beloved Nancy.

We cannot here but express our admiration at the wonderful acuteness and celerity of Diphthong's invention, who had in truth been no further from the chamber, than on the other side of the wainscot, which parted that room from a closet adjoining, in which he very conveniently heard the whole that passed between his cousin and pupil; when, to heighten the effect of the scene, at the very moment when the imagined sorrows of the one, were working upon the passions of the other, he issued out of that closet with the melancholy and unwelcome information we have just commemorated.

Upon our hero's arrival at home, he set himself about to consider the best method for procuring a sufficient sum, for the releasement of his enamorata from her embarrassments. He had some money by him, but this was very inadequate to her wants; this, however, he determined to give her in the meantime, until he could produce a larger

amount. At length he recollect^{ed} that his mother frequently wore a diamond ring, of considerable value, and which, as (being his mother's darling) he was at all times admitted to her apartment, he could easily purloin without any fear of the suspicion of reguery falling upon himself. Upon this then he would have immediately determined, had not an objection to its fitness and propriety been started by a certain principle within, the influence of which neither his own casuistry, or the qualifying assertions of Diphthong, had been able as yet wholly to demolish. He resolved, therefore, without acquainting that gentleman with his particular intentions, to draw up as well as he could what the lawyers would call a case in point, for the opinion of his sagacious master.

C H A P. V.

A fresh chapter.

OUR hero, who thought now of nothing but his Dulcinea, took the first opportunity

opportunity next day to ask Diphthong how far it was lawful for a man, willing to assist the distressed; to take the property of others for that purpose, supposing it out of his power to afford from his own sufficient or necessary assistance.

Diphthong, who was as well acquainted with the meaning of his query, as was the querit himself, resolved to return such an answer to it as might best suit his own and Miss Barnes's purpose; he, therefore, having paused a moment, convened into his countenance in full and majestic assembly, every solemn air and grace, and then with great deliberation addressed our hero as follows:

“ You have asked me a question, Sir; which it requires some consideration to answer with that degree of precision with which questions of such a nature should be answered: It hath yet never appeared clear to me, that certain rights of men, as they are commonly described and defined, have been described and defined aright; I speak not now, remember, as a politician, but as a citizen, not of any little, paltry municipality, but of the world. Hem, ha.—Here he paused, blew his nose, and then proceeded—

“ Things, Sir, you are to recollect, have two kinds or sort of property, the one kind or sort of property is natural and inherent, and therefore immutable, which is nothing to the present purpose ; the other kind or sort of property is acquired or customary, and therefore mutable or changeable, and concerning which I am now to speak : now this latter kind or sort of property, being, as I have said, mutable, is liable and subject to the influences of various modes or customs, which different ages have introduced and adopted, and consequently, when we would search for the truth or justice of any system of right, we must not rest satisfied with the authority of political customs, but must trace the subject of enquiry up to its original foundation, and this leads me to my subject. Hem, ha.—

“ When we look into the world as it at present stands, we find a few are in the possession of great riches, the greater part deprived of such riches, and compelled to earn their sustenance by daily labor ; now it hath been a doctrine long handed down by these rich persons, that the mere possession of their riches doth give them a title thereto, founded in truth and justice ; and that if any man attempt to deprive them of such

such possession, he is an atrocious offender against the laws of God and men; a doctrine, well enough calculated to awe those of mankind who are poor and distressed into a disposition to remain so; but of this doctrine will any thinking man allow the truth? No, surely! before we allow possession to give a good and just title, we must be well assured that such possession was in the very first instance, fairly and justly obtained.—Let us bring this position home.—Can we suppose that every man who is now rich, has obtained these riches justly? or, what is the same thing in effect, but a much more proper subject of enquiry, were they acquired fairly by those progenitors of such men, who did in the primary instance acquire them? so far from it, that I verily believe there are not twenty men in this Kingdom, who, if the first modes in which the estates they now possess, were acquired by their ancestors, should be analyzed, as I may say, and brought to the test of honesty, would be found to have any degree of just and naturally lawful claim to any part of them.—This being the case, we are now to consider that all property is, in its own nature, and was originally constituted among mankind as a common

mon stock ; this being granted, it clearly follows, that every man hath a certain natural right to appropriate the superfluities of others to the relief of his own necessities, whenever he hath it in his power to do so, and if to relieve his own necessities, upon the ground of right, surely to relieve the necessities of others, upon the ground of philanthropy. Hem, ha —

“ Now, Sir, these things being granted, and the right of acquirement of the property of others for the before-mentioned purposes established, we are next to consider the mode or manner of that acquirement ; this being indeed in all such cases a very great and principal object of concern, since by an inattention to that mode or manner, many worthy persons have been hanged without deserving it, and their names for ever held in great disreputation. This being the case, and it being also the case, as I have frequently told you, from the ignorance and prejudices of the world, that many things are fitting to be done which are not fitting to be known, it remains for me to tell you, that since all the property in the world is common, and it is certainly lawful for every man to obtain a share of it for

for his own wants, or for those of others, yet in doing this we must be wary, as you know I have often said, not from a consciousness of guilt, for that would be ridiculous where no guilt is, but from the fear of the censure of that world, which, however foolish or prejudiced, or ignorant it may be, is still of too much consequence for us wholly to neglect or despise.

“ Upon the whole, then, that mode or manner of acquirement, which in such a case as you have stated, I would advise, would be such as should be nicely suited to the particular circumstances of the case; and these after all must greatly determine it; only remember, that whatever it is, it cannot be of too guarded or wary a sort.” — The tutor concluded with an apology for some part of what he had said concerning riches, and vowed he considered such persons as our hero and his father exceptions from those who possessed their fortunes without good titles thereto.

Henry, delighted with this speech, swore it was the best Diphthong had ever made; Diphthong thought so too, and as it was, into the bargain, one of the longest, he strutted up and down the room two or three times, with an air of uncommon satisfaction, which received

received no trifling addition from the assurances of our hero, that he had spoken to his mother about the living, and she had promised that Diphthong should certainly have it.

Young Bennet's scruples of conscience were very fairly removed by Diphthong's exposition; the false and pernicious principles contained in which, were greatly relished by him, and made a much deeper impression upon his mind, than had all the instructive admonitions of poor Franks put together, and in consequence, Mrs. Bennet's ring was soon afterwards missing, together with ten guineas and one shilling, which also lay in the box that held it.

It is to be supposed a great stir was made by Mrs. Bennet, upon the loss of her diamond ring. In the first place, there was a general search through her room, and every place was explored, as well where it could, as where it could not be, but all in vain; the necklace and the money were not to be found. Mrs. Bennet then vowed somebody had robbed her, and also vowed she would not rest until the thief was discovered, which discovery was supposed to be made that very day, not greatly to the satisfaction of Mrs. Bennet's waiting woman, who protested her own innocence, and thanked

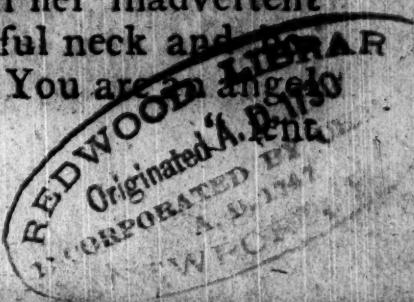
thanked God that she had never before lived in a family where things were missing in that manner.

This waiting woman was not the only person employed in adjusting the dress of Mrs. Bennet; in that important office there was a young person engaged as a kind of assistance to that honest gentlewoman, who was generally reported to be a cousin of only two removes from Mrs. Bennet herself, the truth of which report nevertheless that lady positively denied. Upon this poor girl the suspicion presently fell, and Mrs. Bennet declared that she must certainly be the thief, as it was impossible it could be any other person. The girl declared her innocence, with many tears, but all in vain, her judge was inexorable, and was proceeding to pronounce sentence of immediate dismission, with the infamous character of a thief, when one of the maids, all of whom had been called up on this occasion, declared she had seen just the sum of money her mistress had lost, in Mrs. Barbara's drawer, and that, to be certain, it was as likely she should have the ring, though she could not say she had seen that. This declaration was pleaded to by Mrs. Barbara, who very warmly declared her accuser was a liar, and that

that her mistress was very welcome to look in her drawer if she pleased. The mistress seemed rather inclined to believe the negation of her maid, but the rest of the maids, who, for some reason or other, hated her very heartily, declared they would every one of them leave their places immediately, if their mistress would not search the drawer Betty had mentioned. Mrs. Bennet hereupon went, attended by all the court, to this drawer; Mrs. Barbara all the way declaring with much vehemence, and the reader will readily believe her, that, as God was her judge, she had not the money in her drawer. The drawer, however, was opened, when, lo! the money was discovered under a piece of muslin, but the ring was not to be found. Mrs. Barbara, though greatly confounded, persisted in declaring her innocence. Mrs. Bennet turned away, and taking the money, said, she would consider of it, and enquire further into this dark affair; but whether it was that Mrs. Barbara was in possession of any particular secret which Mrs. Bennet did not wish disclosed, or for what other reason it was, we cannot tell; certain it is, she never mentioned a single word more about the ring either to Mrs. Barbara herself, or to any other person, that we have

have heard of. The real fact was, as we have learnt, Henry had somehow conceived a great dislike against Mrs. Barbara, and therefore, out of his booty, conveyed the money above-mentioned into that drawer in which it was found, hoping thereby she would fall into utter disgrace with his mother.

Though our hero did not succeed, as the reader hath seen, in this design, his disappointment was well enough compensated, by his finding himself in safe and undisturbed possession of the ring, which, as he did not himself know how to dispose of, he resolved immediately to carry to Miss Barnes, the tale of whose distresses, and the image of whose countenance bathed with tears, had scarcely been one moment absent from his mind. In pursuance of this resolution, therefore, he hastened to the fair one the very first opportunity, and without giving the least hint of his purpose to his worthy preceptor. She was still in her room, to which, however, he found easy admittance. " You are " an angel sent for my deliverance," said Miss Barnes, raising herself up in bed, and displaying in her inadvertent haste, the most beautiful neck and bosom in the world. " You are an angel



"sent for my deliverance," said she, as our hero drew forth the diamond ring. He immediately presented it to her, swearing that it acquired a ten-fold value by her reception of it. Miss Barnes looked at it, and being pretty well versed in the value of such things, was transported to find it of real diamonds, and worth a considerable sum; she eagerly embraced our hero, as her deliverer. Had Bennet been a philosopher, or had he had all the philosophic blood of all the philosophers in the world together flowing, or rather rolling in his veins, such an embrace would have, doubtless, disturbed the gentle meander—but neither of these being the case, he in a moment disengaged himself from the incumbrances of dress, and, encircled in the willing arms of the fair one, expired in the midst of joys, which, as they are wonderfully well described in the writings of sundry poets of modern date, we shall here omit, closing the chapter at this place, to give those readers who are fond of such descriptions, time to look for the same in the writings of the said poets.

C H A P. V

In which the merits of Diphthong meet a reward, more suitable, perhaps, to his own inclinations, than to those of the reader.

OUR hero having, like the dead men in the Rehearsal, come to life again, and exchanged with his Nancy mutual vows of everlasting truth, returned home, enamoured ten thousand times more than ever with that lovely creature, and dreaming of nothing but the bliss he had found in the paradise of her arms.

Having reached home, he with much hesitation informed Diphthong of what had passed between his cousin and himself, omitting, however, the ring. Diphthong at first affected to be angry with his cousin, for behaving so unworthily, as he said, and was about very solemnly to discard her from his affections, when the young gentleman making satisfactory mention of the living, he seemed to be greatly pacified, and indeed, from that

that time, instead of being angry at the frequent visits our hero contrived to pay Miss Barnes, did every thing in his power to encourage and promote them.

These visits, we are sorry to say, became very often repeated; and at every one of them the good creature contrived to extract money from our hero, who, unable to withstand her demands, and equally so to supply them from his own allowance, contrived to repeat his depredations in so artful a manner, that several servants were turned away as soon almost as hired; the least degree of suspicion, as may be supposed, never falling upon himself. But, perhaps, for the adroitness of his contrivances to avoid such suspicions, he was indebted to the skill and assistance of his tutor, who, from at first conniving at, became his partner in those thefts; we suppose from love to his cousin, to whom the effects thus stolen were in general conveyed; we say in general, for sometimes, as opportunity served; a part of these were converted by the sagacious and liberal-minded Diphthong entirely to his own use.

At length that happy day arrived, on which the contemplations of Diphthong had been long ardently fixed, and the presenta-

presentation to the living before commemorated was put into his hands by Mr. Titus Bennet, to whom on this occasion he delivered his thanks as follows:

"Your goodness, Sir, in this particular instance, as it is perfectly unexpected, so, let me assure you, it does meet with the return of perfect gratitude from me. I shall always bear it in my memory, and if, since I have been in the care of your son's education, I have been solicitous in my endeavors for his improvement, you may depend, Sir, thankfulness for your favor will induce me, if it be possible, to add to that solicitude."

Titus assured Diphthong that he was perfectly satisfied with the attention he paid to his son; that the boy, he thought, came on very well, and that he was welcome to the living he had given him. Having said this, he left the tutor to meditate upon his good fortune.

And thus, for the eminent services he had rendered his employer, that is to say, flattering himself, sleeping now and then with his wife, though upon this we have not insisted, undermining the principles of his son, seducing that son to the arms of a strumpet, and to rob

rob his mother, and lastly, for robbing him himself, did this gentleman get rewarded with a living of three hundred pounds a year, to the great disappointment of a poor man, who, though he had real learning, much virtue, and a prior promise in his favor, obtained for him with much difficulty by a friend, yet having performed no such services, was compelled to relinquish the subject of his hopes to the Reverend Mr. Diphthong.

With most of these services Titus Bennet was, however, unacquainted, and therefore, if we except the influence of that crawling obsequiousness which marked the behaviour of Diphthong towards him, we know of no reason which should have induced Mr. Bennet to prefer his son's tutor, unless it be that, which induces many great men to prefer rascals and blockheads to the good and virtuous, namely, that the recommendations such meet with, operate much more powerfully than do the recommendations of unnoticed worth and ragged virtues.

At the time when Mrs. Bennet solicited this living for her and her son's favorite, she cleverly contrived that Mr. Diphthong might yet remain a little longer.

longer to take care of Henry, who had, as she urged to Titus, so greatly improved under his tuition. This Titus permitted; as it was now usual with him, indeed, to permit whatever his wife recommended; and accordingly that very person, whose disappointment we have mentioned, was nominated to the curacy, at thirty-five pounds a year, as a compensation for that disappointment; this his necessities compelled him to receive, and this, indeed, in the estimation of some people, will be thought a sufficient reward for the folly of a man, who had begotten into the world no less than six children, with nothing to maintain them, but his learning and his virtue.

C H A P. VII

*Shewing plainly the truth of this maxim;
viz. when we put our trust in a rogue,
it is very possible he may deceive us.*

IN the mean time our hero was so frequently absent, that both Mr. and Mrs. Bennet began to take notice of it:

it: added to this, Mrs. Bennet made no little enquiry after several things, which were every now and then missing. The suspicions consequent upon such losses fell on poor Mrs. Barbara, though her mistress, for some reason or other, as we have before mentioned, did not think proper either to tax her with these thefts, or to discharge her immediately from her service.

Mrs. Bennet, not choosing to acquaint her husband with these matters, contented herself with privately informing Mr. Diphthong with her suspicions of Barbara. He coincided in Mrs. Bennet's sentiments of the waiting woman, but her services were in many respects so necessary to them both, and particularly to the lady, that it is probable she would rather have suffered her to have robbed her of every thing she had, than have inflamed the mind of that faithful servant to a spirit of dangerous resentment.

Diphthong and his coadjutrix might, therefore, still have continued to employ Henry as their tool, in plundering the family, without controul or detection, had not Mr. Bennet himself expressed his wonder to this honest tutor, at the behaviour of his pupil, and at the same time his determination to know the

the meaning of his frequent walks, which, he said, were observed to be made continually towards one certain place. Diphthong confessed it had struck him likewise, and promised to watch his pupil closely. Now when he was alone, he began to reflect upon the possibility of the whole truth of this matter being shortly discovered to Bennet, and from this reflection, his mind naturally passed to another upon no agreeable subject, viz; the consequence such a discovery would be of to that reputation he had ever so anxiously labored to maintain; and these reflections, together with one of a more pleasant nature, namely, that the purpose he had intended by the connexion between our hero and Miss Barnes was pretty well answered, led him to determine upon immediately acquainting Mr. Bennet with so much of the real truth, as he should think it proper for him to know.

Accordingly, a day or two after, having contrived to be alone with Mr. Bennet in the parlor, he, after much hesitation, and many apologies and hoping to be rightly understood, begged to say a word or two to him concerning his son.—The attention of the old gentleman was much excited by the gravity —

gravity of Diphthong's face and tone, and, after staring for a moment, as if taken by surprize, and setting himself in his chair, he desired Diphthong, with much earnestness, to proceed in what he was about to say. Diphthong then spoke as follows—" You well know, Sir, with what attention I have endeavored to promote your son in all necessary learning and knowledge, since I have had the honor of being employed by you as his tutor; you also know how greatly I have endeavored to conciliate his regard, to obtain his love and friendship more than his fear, and to make him consider me rather as his friend than his tutor; how much I have exerted myself to instil into his mind sentiments the most liberal, views and reflections the most extensive, and you cannot be a stranger to the honor he hath done my mode of instruction, by his rapid progress in every branch of knowledge and science which I have undertaken to teach him."—" Aye, aye, Mr. Diphthong," interrupted Bennet, " all this I know very well; but I thought you was going to tell me something of the boy I did not know."—" That you shall hear, Sir, in one minute," returned

returned Diphthong, reddening a little ;
“ *mukum in parvo*, is the characteristic
“ of my conversation, I am sure.”—
“ Well, come,” said Bennet, “ perhaps
“ so, go on ; I am impatient to hear
“ what you have to say.”

“ Having thus, Sir,” continued the tutor, “ beheld the improvement of my
“ pupil, and greatly rejoiced thereat,
“ you must suppose it is with no little
“ grief of mind, that I feel myself com-
“ pelled, from a sense of that duty I
“ owe myself and you, to inform you
“ of a discovery I have made respecting
“ your son, in consequence indeed of
“ our late conversation, which, as it
“ must give you pain, so doth it re-
“ dound very little to my honor or cre-
“ dit.”—After this preface he told his
story in so artful a manner, that it is
no wonder Titus was shocked at the
folly and ingratitude of his son, and
that he joined the tutor in lamenting
the wonderful depravity of the youth.
—Diphthong then proceeded to extort
from the father a promise that he would
keep his name a secret from his son in
this affair. —“ Since, said he, “ you
“ know, Sir, should Master Harry,
“ who it must be confessed, after all, is
“ a pretty youth, know it was I who
“ told you, he would never be brought
“ to

“ to endure me ; and yet it is not for such considerations as those, as I often say, that one is to neglect one's duty.”

In consequence of this information, Mr. Bennet, some short time afterwards, ordered his son into his presence, and after very sharply rebuking him for his folly and misconduct, of which, he said, he was in possession of sufficiently authentic accounts, he ordered him to prepare himself for the country, whither he determined to send him in three days in order that he might be freed from further temptations to extravagance or folly.—Mrs. Bennet, who was shortly acquainted with her husband's determination, at first strongly remonstrated against the unkindness of sending the poor boy into the country, to mope himself to death ; but finding Titus immoveable, and reflecting that the season was shortly approaching, in which she herself, together with her household, must, in compliance with the commands of the god fashion (if there be any such deity) be buried for a few months in her country house, she at length complied with the intention of her lord ; objecting, however, for some reasons which we have never yet been able to learn, to the idea of Diphthong's accompanying him, and to her objections

objections on this score Mr. Bennet at length submitted. Not so easy was our poor hero, for no sooner had he heard that the determination of his father was ratified with the consent of his mother, in whom, for his longer stay in town, lay all his dependence, than, with much sorrow in his countenance, he sought his preceptor, to whom he told the dismal tidings, asking him if he could conjecture who it was had had been so malicious and ill-natured as to inform his father of his intimacy with Miss Barnes.—Diphthong immediately presenting every feature of his face with its proper share of surprize, cried out.—“ What ! told your father ! “ Miss Barnes ! — what do you mean ? “ Nobody surely can have told him of “ your visits to my cousin ! ” Henry swore nothing was more true.—“ Then,” exclaimed the artful Diphthong, “ I am “ ruined ! however, it was to serve “ you, it was for your pleasure, and so “ I will bear it patiently, but I am “ ruined ! my character is gone ! I shall be considered as an accessary ! ” Henry tured him he was perfectly safe, for hat he had not, nor would, on any account, say a word of his concern in the matter. “ But to leave my lovely “ girl — Oh Diphthong, such an after-

“ noon yesterday; but it is the last!
“ My father has only given me, as I
“ have told you, three days to prepare
“ for my departure to that d — d
“ country house, and during that time
“ I am not to go out. By G—d I wont
“ submit, Diphthong, to leave her!”
Diphthong attempted to pacify him by
many arguments, and at length pre-
vailed upon him to submit to his fa-
ther’s pleasure, as it was, he said, his
duty to do; telling him there was no
doubt but that some time hereafter, he
might have it in his power to converse
or correspond with his cousin, which,
when it could well be done, he, for his
part, would be happy to assist in; but
that he could not help thinking it
would be much the wiser way in Henry
to drop all thoughts of it at present. To
this our hero at last reluctantly agreed,
but begged of Diphthong that if it
should unluckily happen he could not
again see his dear Nancy, he would be
so kind as to convey to her any testi-
mony of his love he might think proper
to send her; which Diphthong, who
was highly pleased that our hero had
not betrayed him, without any hesita-
tion promised he would do.

C H A P. VIII.

Shewing how our hero departed for the country, and how another event happened just after of much greater moment to Titus Bennet, Esq.

So relentless were the decrees of Fate to the wishes of our hero, that the day of his departure for the country arrived, without his having been furnished with any opportunity of seeing Miss Barnes; a little time, therefore, before he was to set off, he contrived to have some minutes private conversation with Diphthong. The treacherous tutor appeared very heartily to condole with his disconsolate pupil. At length, Henry drew from his pocket a letter, which he desired Diphthong to deliver very carefully, and as soon as possible, to his Nancy. " My father," says he, " has been wonderfully generous to me this morning, he has given me a ten pound note.—As I told my mother I wanted cash, she added a twenty pound note, in all thirty pounds; it is inclosed in that letter for the dear creature."

Not with greater pleasure doth a courtier take the last bribe the poor

briber hath to offer, for the promise of a place he never intends to procure for him; not with more greediness doth a hungry counsel take the fee from his client, for the success of that cause, which he well knoweth he cannot win, than did Diphthong take that money for a purpose to which he never intended it should be applied; for, reader, if thou hast ever made any observations in thy intercourse with mankind, thou must have found that there are certain persons, in whom the relish for gain is so predominant, that to appropriate any thing of that nature to the use or for the benefit of others, is held by them to be of all practices the most foolish and ridiculous, and therefore, they very wisely resolve that every thing which comes within their reach is lawful prey, and may very fairly be by them applied to their own.

Of this order of mortals was Diphthong; nor was he at all diverted to honest purposes, with regard to the thirty pounds, when our hero generously presented him with five guineas, as a parting remembrance; for indeed it was remarkable with Diphthong, as it is with every one of the aforesaid order, that of all the ends they have to answer by amassing wealth, that of being

ing ever satisfied with what they accumulate, is not one; nor but that Mr. Diphthong, for we would do him justice, declined with much ceremony and many thanks to accept of the five guineas presented to him by his pupil, nay, absolutely insisted that it was perfectly unnecessary, and that he should think of no such thing; all this he certainly did, but, however, such was the importunity of Henry, that the poor man was at last obliged, in spite of all his reluctance, to take the five guineas into his custody also.

And now our hero, having taken leave of his family, hastened to the carriage which stood ready to receive him, to the door of which he was attended by his worthy tutor, who, having taken leave of him, hastened to his apartment in order to add to his treasure the money he had received from young Bennet.

And here, my young reader, permit me to addres thee for a moment. — If thou hast any love for thyself, if thou hast any regard for thy future peace, listen not to him who would lure thee, under whatever pretence, from the path of innocence; give no ear to the subtle arguments of that man, who would insinuate into thy tender mind the poi-

sonous doctrines of criminal indulgence — the way of goodness is a plain and even, though not a beaten tract, the path of honor; if it be thorny, is also strait, and the maxims of religion and morality are pure and simple — if, therefore, he raise up doubts, beware of him; if he attempt to refine away the necessity of a strict adherence to the path thou must pursue, shun him, flee from him as thou wouldest from a serpent, avoid him as thy worst, thy most malignant enemy.

Henry left town with a heavy heart, but before he reached his father's country house was somewhat comforted with the idea, that he might at some future period have it in his power again to enjoy the company of his beloved, his charming Nancy. With this pleasing reflection, he diverted a good deal of the chagrin he felt. At length he arrived, in tolerably cheerful spirits, where we shall leave him a little, to enjoy the pure refreshing air of the country, in order to attend his mother in town, for whom the very next day after the departure of her son, Fate chalked out a very different journey, towards which, though it is a very disagreeable one to many, she manifested not the least degree of reluctance,

tance, for which we can assign but one reason, namely, that she undertook it in such haste, as to have no time for any expressions either of approbation or disgust.

To drop all phrases ambiguous, not more than four and twenty hours had elapsed since our hero had taken his departure for the country, when Mrs. Bennet, while engaged in dressing, was suddenly struck with an apoplectic affection, and fell senseless to the floor. — The shrieks of Mrs. Barbara presently brought several of the servants to her assistance, who raised up the lady, and applied the usual remedies; these proving ineffectual, some put her into a heated bed, while doctors were sent for, who, upon their arrival, had the mortification of finding the patient already in the custody of the common enemy. All this happened while Mr. Benner was out upon some particular business. Upon his return, he was astonished to find every thing in confusion; he enquired the reason, but in vain for some time, not one of the servants would dare to tell him what had happened. At length the housekeeper came trembling forward, and, after several times faying, or rather fighing, “ Oh, Sir! “ Oh Lord, Sir! my mistress! my poor,

“poor dear mistress!” summoned spirits enough to tell the whole of the dismal story in a most dismal manner. Titus, after recovering from his first surprize, behaved quite like a man upon this melancholy occasion, that is to say, he neither raved nor roared on the one hand, as many weak persons are given to do, nor appeared overjoyed on the other, but observed so commendable a mean, and, after giving a few necessary orders, sat down with Diphthong to dinner with so much calmness, that indeed it would have puzzled a much more knowing man than the ingenious Mr. —— himself, to have discovered, with any certainty, either from his countenance or behaviour, whether his wife had in her life time a greater share of his love or hatred.—Nor did he appear to be much moved with that discourse with which it seems Mr. Diphthong thought proper to entertain him, after dinner, upon the uncertainty of all human enjoyments, and upon the necessity of our submitting to the deprivation of them with all calmness and resignation. Indeed the necessity of such a discourse was not very apparent, as Titus seemed fully competent to meet this event with great tranquility.

The death of Mrs. Bennet, however, produced a little alteration in the arrangement

rangement of Titus's domestic affairs, who soon after his wife's death gave up the town house, dismissed most of his numerous train of servants, laid down his splendid equipage, and seemed disposed to all those retrenchments in his expenditure towards which Mrs. Bennet, in her life time, had shewn so great an aversion; and among the rest of those who were dismissed his service, was Mr. Diphthong, for whom Mr. Bennet thought there was now no farther occasion. That gentleman, therefore, at length took his departure, expressing many thanks for the friendship Mr. Bennet had shewn towards him, and, in truth, he had some reason to be well gratified with the success he had met with in this family, for since his coming into it, he had acquired, through his good luck and better management, not less than five hundred pounds, independent of the before-mentioned living. To this living he immediately hastened, but did not, it seems, stay long in the country, for being of an active, ambitious spirit, and wisely considering that a country town was not the place to gain preferment in, continued the honest gentleman we have before mentioned, as his curate, and came up to London, and is, we

hear, by the mere force of those abilities and virtues we have had occasion to notice, in a very fair way of gaining, in time, no less preferment than one of the richest bishopricks in this country.

Mr. Titus Bennet having made the above-mentioned regulations in his family, and taken due means for the safely conducting his affairs in town, set out for his country house, and determined to lead the remainder of his life in freedom from that yoke, which had for a long time sat so uneasly upon him, a resolution of which many persons, we doubt not, will very highly approve, and from which he was never brought upon any account to recede.

Thus far, good reader, we have brought thee, and we hope not unpleasantly: we shall now close the second book of this history, in order to give thee and ourselves a respite, which may peradventure, not be disagreeable to either.

END OF THE SECOND BOOK.

BOOK

BOOK THE THIRD.

CHAP. I.

Containing a few observations addressed to the reader.

VOLTAIRE, in his Optimist, tells us of a Venetian nobleman, who possessed, among other things, a valuable and extensive library, with each work in which he was more or less displeased, passing severe and indiscriminate censures upon every author in his whole collection. Well did the witty writer know, that in drawing that picture, he drew the picture of nine out of ten of those, who peruse works, whether of learning or entertainment, as critics, and who are so miserably mistaken, as to suppose that finding fault is the only just criterion of a sound judgment.

Now

Now there are two sorts of readers or critics, of whom an author hath the greatest reason in the world to beware, and these are, first, the character we have mentioned just now, and secondly, those who make a constant practice of reading no more of the author they are to form a judgment of, than those two pages, whether at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of the book, which salute their eyes upon the first opening.

From the first of these, what mercy hath an author to hope, what candor to expect? Perhaps this critic's judgment may not be prejudiced by the opinion of others; but, what is equally bad, it is by his own determination, and it is ten to one, but he is resolved, like a certain painter, to applaud no performances but his own, and in this he may act politically enough, since, perhaps, that is the only applause such performances would gain.

But what these worthy gentlemen would have the world believe the effect of wonderful judgment and vast discrimination, appear to us, to be in general no other than the effects of that envy or malevolence, which will not suffer the mind it secretly corrodes, to be at all pleased with any of the exer-

exertions of those, who write for the instruction or entertainment of mankind.

A royal author hath said, that every man, however he may now and then excursion in his way through life, will never fail, when left to himself, to return to his ruling passion. The idea may be well applied to these determined censurers, who only desist from the practice of censure and abuse, like the lowest animal from the gratification of his appetite, when that appetite is pretty well glutted, or when he is fast asleep.

The other order of readers are those we have described above, and who, if they be not so open, are at least as malicious enemies as the first; if they be not so hostile, are by far more detestable, and more to be guarded against; and in this light we imagine they must have appeared to that ingenious gentleman, Mr. Alexander Hogg, and those of his brethren, who, in order to disappoint such hyper-critics, do generally make a practice of publishing the valuable works committed to their care, in weekly and monthly numbers; the said critics being thereby compelled, at least, to restrain their pleasant judgment till the whole of such works are out,
lest

lest they should be detected in the fact of passing sentence upon a work, which it must be impossible they should have seen, and from the disgrace of which detection, it would be a difficult matter, even for them, to extricate themselves. Yet, after all, we fear the ingenuity and care of that able gentleman, and his friends, will not avail, and that a temporary defeat of these literary marauders, will only, like the overthrow of a band of Arabian plunderers, produce in a short time a more formidable appearance of the enemy.

With regard to the real learning of both these classes of readers, who peruse books only for the charitable purpose of censuring them, it must be very great, if we give credit to what they report of themselves; and as we profess ourselves to be well-bred, we will not deny that they are men of learning, because they say they are, nor will we also deny that they have ill-nature, because every body says they have it.

After all, a writer is not to be disengaged if his work be censured by many, provided those whose applause he gains, be men of judgment and discerning. Horace advises a man to be solicitous to write so as to please the few.

few competent judges, and not the
folly many.

— Neque te ut minetur turba, labores;
Contentus paucis lectoribus.

HOR. SAT. 10. I. 1.

There were impertinent fellows in
Horace's time; he mentions two or
three of them in this very Satire:

Men' moveat cimex Pantilius? aut cruciet quod
Vellicet absentem Demetruis? aut quod inepius
Fannius Hermogenis laetat conviva Tigelli?

and though they did not, perhaps, fire
him with all that indignation which
Juvenal discovers, he took care to let
them know their folly and arrogance
did not escape his notice.

Reader, whoever thou art, take with
thee in all thy perusals and contempla-
tions, candor, good nature, and thy
own judgment. When thou readest
the work of an author, do not censure
the whole, because certain parts are
imperfect, or because it hath been
censured by many, since what Epictetus
says in his Enchiridion, of those who
would attain to philosophy, may not
inaptly be applied to those who would
attain to the excellence of good writ-
ing; they must prepare themselves to
be

be laughed at and sneered by the multitude.—Nor be content with forming thy judgment of a work, from the perusal of a page, since such judgment may be a weak and unworthy one, and, in the end, reflect upon thee infinitely more disgrace, than ever the most silly book in the world hath brought upon its unfortunate author.

C H A P. II.

In which the hero appears at full length.

WE shall now pass over a period of time of near four years, in which, if we except several visits our hero performed to London, in one of which, upon some occasion, he quarrelled with, and utterly renounced Miss Barnes, nothing happened of importance sufficient to engage our attention, only informing the reader, that Henry, who had not unfrequently observed the necessity of exterior accomplishments, had taken great pains to attain to excellence in all those qualifications, with which

which it is deemed necessary a gentleman should be furnished.

And now, at the age of twenty-one, the reader may behold the hero of this history, possessed of a very handsome and engaging person,—soft and insinuating manners, great fluency of speech, of an understanding by no means contemptible, of learning sufficient for a modern gentleman, of a mind not unstored with foresight and penetration,—of warm passions, of a vicious disposition, and of great cunning and art to hide it from those, who he would wish should be strangers to his possession of it.—Love the ruling passion of his soul, himself very little inclined to friendship, all high and noble instances of which he laughed at, as absurd and weak; in short, he was one of those, who wisely determining there is no other world than the present, because they have not seen it, are resolved to enjoy all they can attain to in this, when such enjoyment is not incompatible with their personal ease and safety; and who hold all the relationships of society, when they combat with the completion of any desires they have formed, in much the same scale of estimation or respect, as doth that dutiful son the life of his father.

father, whose estate he is full impatient to squander away.

Towards perfection in all these ideas, it is true, he had made no trifling progress under the instructions of Diphthong, but for that excellence in them which he really possessed he was much more indebted to his own heart, which must, we think, have been naturally made up of very base affections, and to a strength of discrimination, most strangely perverted, since, at the age of twenty-one, he had made sufficient observation among mankind, to know, that an easy carelessness, and an apparent generosity of sentiment, ever formed the surest cloke to dark and vicious designs, and that a starched formality, and appearance of extraordinary religion and sobriety, full as often led mankind into suspicions of the character of that person by whom they were assumed, as did the most profligate behaviour, or the most unguarded disclosure of wicked and abandoned sentiments; both those extremes he, therefore, very politically determined to avoid, and at the same time to observe that admirable mean we have mentioned, as the most secure and easy method of imposing upon others.

To.

To trace to its source this propensity to the love of deception, which appears to be so strongly characteristic of some minds, is not, we conceive, within our province; it is sufficient for our purpose, that such vicious propensities do sometimes arise in the mind, even where there is no apparent motive sufficient to excite them; and, I believe, the farther we examine into human nature, the more we shall discover the truth of this idea, that those propensities or inclinations of the mind are oftentimes in their nature more strong and vicious in proportion as there doth not appear any external motive, from the influences of which such propensities might arise; yet we do not argue, therefore, that men are vicious from the mere satisfaction that can arise from the love of vice, or that because there are no external sufficient causes for such effects, there are in reality no such causes existing; the fact is, that such causes are frequently so latent, as scarcely to be discerned, even by those upon whom their influences are exerted; certain it is, our hero found many inclinations arise in his bosom, against the gratification of which, a certain principle within him exerted its utmost influence; but the sophistry of

Diph-

Diphthong, added to his own, had weakened more and more the efficacy of this uneasy principle, and it was at length, after a long council held within himself, resolved, *nemine contradicente*, that *that* was happiness to every man, which he thought to be such; that this happiness was a lawful pursuit, and that, therefore, all means to attain the possession of it were lawful, and that, in the choice of such means, the preference was to be given to those, which brought him by the safest and easiest way to the completion of his purpose.

C H A P. III.

In which the reader is introduced to a new acquaintance, who, in whatever light he may appear to the reader, will, we apprehend, be held in a very contemptible one by a physiognomist.

HOWEVER those propensities we mentioned in the last chapter might arise, certain it is, they did exist in the

the mind of our hero, and were very much strengthened and encouraged by certain contemplations, which, although they are of no philosophick kind, are to the full as pernicious as any which the most dissolute system of philosophy could create; nay, it may be doubted, whether the contemplations to which we refer, are not, as it were, the offspring of that very system.

What the subject of these contemplations was, the reader shall in due time be made acquainted; but before his curiosity can be satisfied on this head, he must be contented to take a cursory review of certain transactions, which happened a little time previous to the period of our history, at which we are now arrived.

Some time after the removal of Mr. Bennet into the country, there arrived in his neighbourhood, a family from a distant part of the kingdom, of whom report presently spoke, as it generally does, in very different terms and degrees of respect, and accordingly their cautious neighbours desisted from visiting them, till they could be well assured that they might with safely do so. Indeed, one would think that the inhabitants of a country town or village, we mean the esteemed and fashionable part,

part, were very pious and excellent observers of that well-known admonition, Evil communication, &c. and that they greatly feared the endangering of their own, or their children's virtue, by an intimacy with strangers, from the wonderful care with which they make enquiry after the manner of life of their new neighbours, before they will enter their houses, or suffer them to be received into their own; and indeed, there is but one reason that we know of, why the credit of such a pious fear should not be given to these worthy people, and it is this, that the object of their scrutiny is not whether the said strangers are amiable, virtuous, honest, and so on, but whether they go to church in a carriage, or on foot, whether they are guilty of that almost unpardonable offence, being in trade; and lastly, whether or no (and in this article we find their enquiries the most eager) they have the supreme happiness of knowing who was their great grand-father's grand-father, in which latter case the article of a carriage is sometimes dispensed with.

At length, however, all doubts were removed, and every thing being happily settled, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were

were admitted to terms of friendship ; that is, to drink tea, and play at cards with the chief inhabitants of the village, it being proved incontestibly, that the former was third cousin to Lord —, and that the first husband of the latter, who had been dead twenty years, had been, in his lifetime, a lieutenant colonel in the army.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were, in fact, persons of a disposition the very opposite to those we have just now mentioned ; their principles were liberal, their souls of a kindly temper, their minds diffusively open and benevolent. They had formerly lived in affluence, but, by a series of unfortunate events, were reduced to the bounds of a bare independence, with which, however, they were well contented, and indeed bore in their whole demeanour the evidence of resigned and happy souls.

This worthy pair had a son, to whom Nature had imparted an uncommon portion of her gifts. At the age of twenty, he was in possession of a person remarkably handsome, of manners equally elegant, of an understanding amazingly enlarged, of a soul, in which might with truth be said to dwell every gentle, noble, and amiable affection. Great as were these advantages, he will not,

not, perhaps, be esteemed an object of violent envy by certain persons, since Fortune had been so sparing in her favors, as to allow him no greater share of her gifts than he could acquire in the world, by the possession of these advantages, which share, the reader need not be told, generally amounts to nothing. His father, however, (who had for some time past been making fruitless applications for his son's promotion in the military line, which he preferred to all others,) had no contemptible portion of learning, and had taken every care to give him the power of exerting the qualifications he possessed to the utmost advantage. He had implanted in his mind, not only a high sense of real honor, but a veneration for what are its inseparable companions, religion and virtue. In short, he had made his son a worthy claimant, though he might prove an unsuccessful one, of those advantages which ever ought to be the meed of virtue.

This young gentleman, whose name was Frederick, was performing one of those visits we have mentioned, at the house of a family to which our hero resorted, and who happened to be there that very evening. The company consisted chiefly of females, and our young gentlemen

gentlemen fell almost by consequence into a kind of companionship for the evening, during which time Henry, who soon found the bias of his companion's mind, played his part so well, that young Frederick was delighted with him in the highest degree, and at parting requested the honor of his intimacy. "I am convinced, Sir," said he, "you are possessed of sentiments too generous and too discriminating, to think me guilty of affectation or flattery, when I declare, that the manner in which you have delivered some of those sentiments, has already engaged towards you my highest respect and admiration." Our hero failed not to make a proper return to this speech, by one of similar import; a league of amity and confidence was immediately struck, and both the young gentlemen parted for the evening, highly delighted with each other.

After what we have just now said of the enlightened understanding of young Johnson, it may be wondered at by some of our more curious readers, that he should be so easily deceived into a good opinion of our hero; but there are two things to be urged in his defence, the first is this, the honesty of his own intentions, joined to the green-

ness of his years, rendered him very incompetent to discover easily the real truth of our hero's disposition under the impenetrable mask that young gentleman had assumed, and the like to which hath so often misguided the judgments of many very sagacious and experienced men, examples enough of which, did we conceive them to be needful; we could presently adduce; the second is, Frederick, amongst all the sciences he had heard of from his father, as necessary for his study, had not recollect'd the least mention of that notable one of physiognomy; indeed it is more than probable the old gentleman had never attended to it himself, and we are the rather inclined to this opinion, as the ingenious Mr. Lavater had not at that time exerted those endeavors for the improvement and enlightening of mankind, which have since so wonderfully succeeded; and by which, doubtless, at some future period, men will be rendered wiser, that is, more cunning than they have ever yet been; when every man must be really honest, from a principle of fear at least, if not of goodness, seeing he must carry about with him at once the evidence of guilt, and the means of detection. But if ever the world arrive at this knowledge,

ledge, it is certainly yet to come, and we must for the present rest contented to discover the minds of men by their actions, leaving it to a wiser and happier posterity to know them by their faces.

In this wonderful science, then, it appears Frederick was totally deficient, for which deficiency, those of our readers who have been lucky enough to attain the excellencies of it, will, we doubt not, hold him, or at least his understanding, in a proper degree of contempt.

But if there are some readers who will wonder at the partiality which Frederick appears to have entertained for our hero, there are others who will be equally surprised at that which our hero appears to have entertained for Frederick; especially as it seems this latter youth possessed no recommendations to such a person as Henry, who would not only laugh at him on account of his principles, but deride him for his poverty; it being a grand and standing maxim with our hero, never to form an intimacy with any man but when it might conduce either to his advantage or his pleasure; to neither of which an union with Frederick could apparently

lead, since to Bennet his poverty was contemptible, and his virtue folly.

It then remains to account to the curious and observing reader, for that readiness with which Bennet not only conversed with Frederick during almost the whole evening, but for the eagerness with which he accepted his offer of friendship; a conduct which must surely appear repugnant to those sentiments we have taught the reader to form of his leading inclinations; this we will gladly do, as there was certainly a reason for it, with which, though it hath not yet appeared, the reader shall be made acquainted in the next chapter.

CHAP. IV.

From the perusal of which the sensible reader will derive both pleasure and pain.

IN pursuance of the promise with which we concluded the last chapter, we shall now proceed to clear up to the reader, that doubt we conclude he must have

have entertained of the consistency of our hero's conduct.

It will be necessary, then, to inform the reader, that in addition to the comfort Mr. and Mrs. Johnson received from the possession of an amiable and dutiful son, they received all the delight that the attentions of a tender, virtuous and lovely daughter, can impart to the parental breast. Julia was nearly the counterpart of her brother; her attractive and powerful charms were the softening of his manly graces; his manners, his understanding were her own, and the gentle, noble and amiable affections of his bosom, were only, if it were possible, the still more gentle tenants of her breast. She excelled in all it became her sex to know, and she was conscious of her excellence, without exulting over the inferiority of others. With a person formed to charm, a soul attuned to love, a mind capable of relishing the pleasures of youth and life, she cheerfully dedicated her hours to those from whom she had derived her being. For their sake she refused those numberless invitations to pleasure abroad, which youth and beauty seldom fail to meet with, and as seldom can withstand. To meliorate and smooth the declining path for her beloved

loved

loved parents, seemed her grand delight; and to gratify their wishes her greatest happiness. Nor was the love she bore her brother scarcely inferior; he knew her whole heart, and returned her love and confidence; he foresaw the hour when she might be deprived of the counsel and support of her parents, and determined to be not only her brother, but her protector and her friend.

Although the affiduity with which Julia attended upon her parents, had composed her air into a sedateness rather unusual, yet it had neither robbed her eye of its fire, or her features of their spirit; she had indeed upon the least exertion, a countenance uncommonly lively; the tone of her voice was vivacious, and her whole deportment easy and unaffectedly cheerful.

Shortly, then, before the commencement of that intimacy which we have mentioned to take place between Frederick and Henry, the latter had seen the charming Julia. He was struck with her beauty, and certain desires, upon the very first sight of her person, took possession of his breast, of no friendly import to her virtue; but as at that time he had not a proper opportunity of enquiring who she was, he suffered them not to grow to any height, lest, should

should he find it impossible to satisfy them, they might prove injurious to his tranquility. He, soon, however, met with an opportunity of prosecuting his enquiries, and found her to be the daughter of Mr. Johnson.

While upon some minds difficulties act as stimulatives, upon others they have a contrary effect. Our hero ever preferred the easy road, and accordingly no sooner found, or thought he found, that to gain the lady was practicable, than he immediately set himself to contrive the best means for effecting his purpose, when, very fortunately for him, he was saved much troublesome and perplexing contemplation, by that meeting between him and Frederick, mentioned in the last chapter, which had produced sentiments in the breast of that young gentleman so greatly in our hero's favor.

Thus, reader, we trust, we have cleared up the conduct of our hero, whose only reason for encouraging an intimacy with a youth of Frederick's disposition was, doubtless, the hope that by his means he might meet with that favorable introduction to the notice of his sister, which he most ardently desired.

In consequence of that mutual regard which seemed to have taken place between them, our young gentlemen very shortly after met at the house of Mr. Bennet. In the course of this visit, the evening being fine, and the season extremely pleasant, they walked forth into the garden, in order that they might more freely indulge themselves in conversation.

The scene was indeed particularly calculated for inspiring affections the most pure and disinterested; and while they were walking in a grove, at some distance from the house, that conversation passed between them, a small part of which we shall present to the reader.

“ My dear Frederick,” cried our hero in a rapture, and squeezing with no little violence young Johnson’s hand,

“ how happy do I esteem myself in
“ having met with you! I have long
“ sought in vain for a companion with
“ whom my soul might unite, without
“ fear or reluctance; to whom I might
“ communicate the most latent thoughts
“ of my bosom, and in whom I might
“ meet with equal returns of friendly
“ confidence. You must permit me
“ this exultation; and this embrace, we
“ are alone, and can indulge the emo-
“ tions, the genuine emotions of the
“ heart

" heart without controul." At these words he strained Frederick to his bosom with an earnestness, which one would think could only proceed from real affection. To such a cause that generous unsuspecting youth attributed the behaviour of Henry; he returned his embrace, and they vowed eternal friendship.—" How pure, how exalted," said Frederick, a tear actually standing in his eye, " are the emanations of friendship! I had almost said they were divine, and how greatly do I feel the value of that friendship with which you have honored me—nor think, my dear friend, it is less engag ing to me from the consideration that you have so nobly overlooked the disparity of fortune." Our hero stopped him, " Talk not of fortune," said he, " I scorn the dirty consideration! it is the death of every lofty, generous thought! Can riches, or the love of them, form the basis of friendship? Impossible, my dear friend! friendship must be totally abstracted from such low considerations; gratitude, esteem, and honor, must combine to form and support the sensation; it must be unmixed with any thing base and unworthy! This friendship, thus

“ composed, I offer to your acceptance.”—“ And gladly do I accept it,” said Johnson. “ To be united by the bands of friendship, to one of such liberal principles as yourself, is a happiness I could scarcely ever have ventured to hope for; such an union, my dear Henry, does not fall to the lot of many, and I will prize it as I ought.”—“ You say too much,” returned our hero.—“ I say not half,” I feel,” replied Frederick, “ were it possible I should say, all my heart would dictate, I fear you would be inclined to think me an hypocrite, though at the same time, could you see that heart, I am equally confident you would readily trust its plainness and sincerity.”—“ Our friendship henceforth,” said our hero, in a raised tone of voice, “ shall be equally sincere and impartial. I cannot bear the idea of a partial friendship; it is unworthy of the name! receive me into your whole, unreserved confidence, and take mine in return; I promise you, not the least particle of my ideas, wishes, desires, hopes, or fears, shall be hidden from you, if you will grant me an interest equal in yours.”—“ Partial friendship, Henry,” returned young Johnson, “ you cannot

" cannot hold in greater contempt than
" I do, I detest it! I abhor it! you
" have generously offered me yours un-
" reservedly, take mine in return, Sir,
" and I can assure you, however infe-
" rior the qualifications of your new
" friend may be, there is one in which
" he can boast of being your equal,
" and that is, in sincerity; and, I
" trust, you will never have reason to
" repent the day, in which your good-
" ness was pleased to favor me with a
" welcome proof of your regard." To
all this, our hero failed not to make a
due return, and in this manner they
conversed a considerable time.

The remainder of the evening having
passed in a very agreeable manner, the
young gentlemen at length parted with
some reluctance; Johnson having as-
sured Henry again and again of his
admiration of his truly noble principles,
concluded thus, " next to the wish of
" gaining your friendship for myself,
" I am anxious to obtain a portion of
" it for my sister. Perhaps you will
" think I speak with the blind partiality
" of a brother, but you will believe
" me, when I say, she is capable of
" distinguishing and respecting the
" good and generous. I know she will
" be happy to see a man, whose senti-
" ments,

" ments, like himself, may be truly
" called good and generous." Our
hero protested he did not by any means
deserve those compliments with which
his friend loaded him, and at the same
time declared, that nothing upon earth
would give him equal pleasure, to that
he should receive from the esteem of
so amiable a lady as the sister of his
friend.—Frederick assured him it would
not be long before that event should
take place, and shortly after departed.

It is, perhaps, scarcely possible for
one man to part from another, (from
whose hands he hath just been receiv-
ing some great and extraordinary kind-
ness,) with a heart more strongly fraught
with every friendly overflowing sensa-
tion, than did Frederick Johnson pos-
sess towards his new friend, with whose
generosity he was so charmed, that he
hesitated not to describe him to Julia
upon his return home, as the paragon
of all that was great and noble in the
spirit of man. She listened, as indeed
she always did, with the kindest atten-
tion to her brother's account of our
hero, and such were the ideas she form-
ed of him from that account, that she
was to the full as eagerly desirous to
converse with so extraordinary a person,
as her brother could possibly be to in-
troduce.

introduce him, or our hero himself to be introduced. Nor did she fail to felicitate her brother very heartily upon the addition he must derive to his happiness in the possession of so generous, so amiable a friend. Frederick received her congratulations with a kind of honest pride, which plumes itself upon having accomplished a purpose, which could only be effected by the aid of honor and virtue.

The remainder of this evening was spent by this amiable brother and sister, and happy fond parents in canvassing the virtues of our hero; Frederick having repeated to the old people, with all the exaggerations of a glowing friendship, the noble sentiments of Henry. Happy that their son had met with a companion so suitable to his virtues and his years, the honest people indulged themselves with one glass of wine, and one half hour at the table extraordinary, and did not, therefore, retire to repose till it was full eleven o'clock.

While we leave this innocent family to the enjoyment of that repose, which if it doth not always fall to the lot of the suffering children of virtue, is never known to the most prosperous and favoured.

woured of the vicious, we shall enquire after the welfare of Henry Bennet.

Though Henry retired to his chamber very early, it was not to rest. To find himself thus beloved by Frederick, and to see that generous youth so anxious to introduce him to his sister, had transported him, and it was with the highest satisfaction that he found himself in the possession of a sure road to her esteem at least, without labour, and almost before he could have hoped it. This simpleton of a brother, said he to himself, who is, forsooth, the friend and guardian of his sister's honour, is going to introduce me to that sister, under the very title, of all others the most engaging to a girl, who hath any heart, and which, if she hath not already irretrievably lost her's, will doubtless, in the end, procure me the possession of it—should any difficulties arise, I can throw in, to the aid of my virtues, a little seasonable gallantry, which ever operates well, and these together will prove too much for the sagacious advice of her doating parents, or foolish brother. He surely deserves to be punished for his folly, and I shall at least have the merit of teaching him a little more caution in future than he seems to be master of at present. But will

will this be honorable? Pooh! get thee gone, honor! what a man of fortune observes honor, when a silly girl is in the way? Ridiculous! has this brother of her's laid open the way, and shall I not pursue it? shall I give up the possession of the adorable Julia, from a point of honor? I should cut a pretty figure truly, in the annals of modern gallantry—no, by Heaven! my lovely girl, I will not give thee up, till thou hast blest me, fondly blest me, with the full possession of thy charms.

Thus, courteous reader, did the hero of this history, and the family of the Johnson's, pass the night—four people, all innocent, upright and happy, were dreaming of new felicity, from the friendship of a man, whom, as we have said before, they were prepared to love, and whose virtues to admire, while the bosom of that virtuous man himself was, in strict conformity to sundry modern and popular examples, filled with imaginations of the most destructive and baneful import to their peace. If there are in the world any persons who, like our hero, are spending their hours in plotting the misery of those who have confided in them, in laying schemes for the destruction of that helpless virtue which it is their duty

duty to support, we shall conclude this chapter with most heartily wishing them amendment, or if they continue in their villainy, that shame and that remorse, which if they do not meet with in this world, they may pretty certainly look for in the next.

C H A P. V.

*Containing the introduction of Henry to Julia,
and other matters.*

AT length that happy day arrived, in which our hero was to make his first visit to Mr. Johnson's, and to be introduced to the lovely Julia. His heart beat with a kind of trembling expectation; he hoped to find her charming, yet he feared lest, by a second interview, she should lose in his idea any part of the loveliness he had despaired in her at the first. To a very handsome and engaging exterior, as before mentioned, Henry added no trifling share of that vanity which so nobly distinguishes certain of those sagacious personages,

the

the beauxs of our day, from those pitiful, silly fellows, who are contented modestly to sneak through life in a shabby coat and dirty shoes, with no other companions than good sense, and an amiable soul, and who, in general, are so far from exciting love and respect, or at least the degree of these they gain is so trifling, that it is presently swallowed up by the ridicule which the meanness of their appearance excites, yet we are happy to say, we have observed many instances of love or respect to such good sense from our fair countrywomen, where the owner of them was destitute of that powerful recommendation to their notice, a fashionable coat.

The former of these observations Henry had made more than once, and therefore determined (at once to gratify that vanity we have mentioned, and to save his pride a probable mortification) to equip himself in such a manner as might be the most likely to produce that irresistible kind of prepossession in his favour, which strikes the mind at the first sight of an agreeable object.

This momentous concern was at last finished, and he drove with an elated bosom to Mr. Johnson's. Upon his alighting

alighting he was met and welcomed at the very door by Frederick.

The good old couple, with their lovely daughter, were ready to receive him with the most sincere and hearty welcome, as the friend of one who was dear to them all.—“I am happy, Sir,” said the old man, as he took his hand, “to embrace a gentleman of whom my son hath spoken so highly, and for whom he hath conceived so great an esteem; you are welcome, Sir, to this house.”—The old lady gave him the like assurances, while Julia favoured him with a smile, which would have driven from his bosom every villainous idea, had that bosom belonged to almost any other man in the world, than this individual Henry Bennet.

With a countenance replete with smiles, did our hero return the gratulations of the family; he took the old peoples hands by turns, and assured them of his happiness in their friendship. Having performed this, he approached Julia, led by his friend, with a bow of that profound sort, which is of so doubtful an import, that many sagacious men have in vain puzzled themselves to affix to it its true meaning. He took her hand, with a countenance into which he had previously conveyed a necessary

a necessary degree of softness, and assured her of the delight he felt in being introduced to so amiable a person. This drew a courtesy from the lady almost as profound as the gentleman's bow, and the company took their seats.

Much conversation passed in the course of the day, during which our hero so effectually recommended himself to the esteem of his new friends, that when the hour of departure arrived, they would not permit him to take his leave till he had solemnly promised them his friendship, and the pleasure of frequent visits, to which our hero having most willingly acceded, mounted the carriage, and drove away.

C H A P. VI

Soliloquy.

AS there is no vanity higher than that which is marked by a false and affected plainness, so is there no villainy greater, or more destructive, than that which is hidden under the appearance of

of great sensibility and tenderness. As a proof of this, we beg leave to produce to the reader poor Julia, on whose heart the sentiments and manners of our hero had, to confess the truth, made a very great and serious impression. His agreeable exterior had wonderfully pleased her, but the nobleness of the ideas he had taken care to manifest, had charmed, had enchanted her, yet in so easy and natural a way, that it excited no emotions in her bosom which she did not think she might with the greatest safety indulge; in fact she had no idea of danger, and the enemy had actually won all the outworks, and made a breach in the citadel, long before she suspected he was in motion at all.

But the bosom of Henry was not thus tranquil; the image of Julia was constantly present to his imagination, and seemed to upbraid him with his guilty purposes; — her beauty and artlessness appeared already to reproach him for his intended perfidy, but at the very next moment that beauty created in his mind the wildest desires; and he determined at length to make himself master of such transcendent charms. "Fool that I am," said he, as he turned to and fro, restless and uneasy upon his bed,

bed, " to hesitate thus at conquering
" the virtue, as they call it, of a silly
" girl—What is there to deter me from
" at least attempting it? Am I to be
" awed by the insinuations of that phan-
" tom, which daily makes such egre-
" gious fools? But why not at once
" unite myself with this charming girl
" for life? Has she not every qualifi-
" cation? Why not marry her, and
" be the sole master of so many beau-
" ties in one? Marry her! and make
" myself a fool, not only in my own
" eyes, but in those of all my acquaint-
" ance. — A pretty figure I should cut
" truly, to marry a girl not worth a
" farthing; I should want some face to
" come forward, methinks, with my
" poor, penniless wife at my heels: and
" what is marriage? 'tis the devil! 'tis
" slavery, absolute slavery! and no man
" of spirit can bear its chains, and shall
" I bear them? shall I sue and truckle
" to a foolish girl? shall I cringe and
" flatter to be made her slave? no, that
" is too much, by heavens! to be re-
" jected too, perhaps, or if received, to
" become a husband! the jest of every
" body; yet I must have her! I pine, I
" ficken, I die to possess her! yet how
" to gain her? she appears proof against
" the common force of flattery, which
" hath

“ hath in general so great an effect
“ upon her sex ; riches are nothing to
“ her , she says she despises them, and
“ this damned brother of her's has taken
“ such pains to fill her head with a set
“ of primitive notions, that the com-
“ mon-place round of artifice would
“ certainly prove abortive ; I see the
“ girl has me in her eye already, and
“ no doubt would think me a pitiful
“ fellow, should I decline to advance.
“ I must and will advance, but to ad-
“ vance and be defeated, my projects
“ overturned, perhaps in the very mo-
“ ment of their completion — cursed
“ thought, I'll not indulge thee ; I must
“ act cautiously, like a wise general who
“ knows he has a wary enemy to deal
“ with, and is perhaps, into the bar-
“ gain, upon that enemy's ground, and
“ if defeated, what then ? 'Tis the
“ chance of war, others have been de-
“ feated before, and, thank my stars,
“ a man is not thought the worse of
“ among the sex, because he's known
“ to have attacked one or two of the
“ pretty creatures of it, as they fell in
“ his way.” Not to tire the reader with
the whole of this debate, which, to
speak in the stile of a certain noble au-
thor, was continued pretty warmly
through the night between our hero
and

Himself, we will only present him with the result of it, which was, if the said reader hath not already divined it, a determination to possess himself as speedily as possible of that part of the earthly possessions of the lovely Julia, which that fair creature held most highly valuable, to wit, her charming person, and which he did indeed most earnestly long to devour. — In consequence of this determination, he omitted no opportunity of improving his friendship with Frederick, and of gaining the affection of the old people, by which he hoped most forcibly to ingratiate himself with the fair Julia; for, to say the truth, he well considered, that many very honest, well meaning lovers have lost their ends upon the daughters, by not first of all beginning their courtship with the fathers and mothers.

This our discerning hero, as we have said, well knew, and he resolved therefore to make his way to the heart of Julia, through the medium of those of her parents; so assiduously therefore did he apply himself to oblige them, and so little did he seem inclined to attach himself to Julia, beyond the common intercourse of civility, that an ordinary observer would have concluded, he was much

much better pleased with the wife and solid conversation of the good old people, than with all the charms of the fair one; and it would no doubt have been decided upon by many modern men of wit and spirit, that the young lady must have regarded him as little better than a tasteless, sneaking, pitiful fellow. Although we have all due respect for the judgment of such gentlemen, and think them certainly very capable to decide in general upon matters of this nature, yet in the present case they would undoubtedly have found themselves somewhat deceived, since, in fact, that happened to Julia, which was the very reverse of what they, in their wisdom would have supposed; to speak plainly, Julia did not refuse to admit into her bosom an affection for a man, who not only had the confidence and esteem of her parents and brother, but who appeared to possess at the same time, every accomplishment of person and mind which could challenge respect and love.

C H A P. VII.

Containing a little grave matter.

THE frequent visits young Bennet paid to Johnson's family were by no means agreeable to his father, who hated nothing in the world so much, as any kind of connection with people who had no money ; against these visits, therefore, he had frequently remonstrated to his son, but in vain ; at length one evening, when our hero had returned home from Johnson's, Titus sent for him to his apartment, and spake as follows : " Harry, you have been to " Johnson's, I know it," for sometimes the young gentleman would equivocate a little on this head, and was preparing to do so now, " so it don't signify pre- " tending to deny it. It is very odd " that I so often caution you against " going there, and yet you will go ; " have not I often told you that these " poor shabby devils can never do a " man any good ? I never would have " any thing to do with them myself ; " if I had, I fancy I should not have

“ had 100,000l. in my pocket, no, no,
“ as they have nothing, so nothing is
“ ever to be got out of them ; but I
“ see how it is — yes, yes, I see how it
“ is, there is that girl of theirs ; but you
“ shall never have her, Harry, for if
“ you do, not a farthing shall you have
“ of me, not a farthing.” Harry vowed
he had no thought of her. “ I don’t be-
“ lieve that,” said old Bennet, “ I don’t
“ believe that, I say ; I am not at this
“ time of day, to be thus persuaded.
“ You would pretend, I suppose, that
“ idle fellow of a boy there, is the com-
“ pany you go for.” Henry protested
it was most true. “ However,” said the
father, “ to put an end at once to this
“ business, and to keep you out of the
“ way of mischief, as I can’t look af-
“ ter you myself,” for indeed he had
been some time confined to his house,
“ I have purchased for you a com-
“ mission in the army.” “ In the army !”
cried young Bennet, “ Aye,” in the
army, replied the father, “ for its high
“ time you should begin to be known
“ in the world. What objection have
“ you to the army ?” “ I don’t like my
“ throat should run any risk of being
“ cut, Sir,” said Harry. As for that,”
replied the father, “ you need not trou-
“ ble your head about that ; its in a
“ part

“ part of the army that does not often fight, but that is nothing, you’ll have as much credit as those who do fight, and perhaps more too, with some people. You don’t suppose, blockhead, I should put my only son, for whom I have been getting a pretty decent estate together, thank God, in a way of having his throat cut?” Harry thanked his father with a bow. “ I hope to see you a lord, or something of that kind, bye and bye, but you must be known first.” “ True, Sir,” said the son. “ You are to take the command of your company in a month, and in the mean time, you may get every thing ready before you set off for London.” A sudden thought now struck our hero; he immediately set about thanking his father; he expressed the great delight he took in thinking of his goodness, and his hopes that he should be worthy of it. The old gentleman seemed at length satisfied, and our hero, after having received from his father a second admonition against his intimacy with the Johnsons, left that gentleman to repose himself, after the fatigue of so long a conversation.

If Henry Bennet had not all the courage in his composition, for which those

renowned heroes, who defy all the difficulties and inconvenience that attend the pursuit of glory, in the well known park of St. James's, are so greatly notorious, yet had he a pretty abundant share of that vanity, for which they are still more remarkable, and this did indeed no less deliciously feast his imagination with the splendid idea of his own appointment, than was the imagination of Achilles of old, with the more bloody ideas of slaughtering Hector, while he was pursuing that unlucky champion round the walls of Troy; and indeed we should have apprehended it might be from reading some accounts of the terrible exploits of ancient heroes, that some of our modern warriors have conceived so great an antipathy against the savage ideas of fighting and butchering their fellow creatures, or of being butchered by them abroad, and that they thus pleasantly content themselves with the harmless and delightful amusement of exercises, reviews, and sham fights at home, had we not recollect'd, that certain of the said warriors have been found to have an equal antipathy to reading and fighting. To proceed, this vanity of our hero assisted him in his delightful contemplations through the night,

night, nor did he neglect to draw an useful project, to advance the interest of his amour with Julia, from his intended absence in London. He now suffered several days to elapse, without visiting the lady, in the course of which, however, his friend Frederick paid him a visit or two, in one of which, observing our hero to appear greatly dejected, he said, " My dear " Harry, what is the matter with you ? " you are very dull, and have been so " these several days past; hath any " thing happened, to give you uneasi- " ness ? " " Dull," said our hero, " you " jest, Frederick, I never was merrier in " my life," putting on a still more grievous countenance. " Ah ! my " friend," said Frederick, " pardon me, " your looks assure me you are not at " ease; but prythee tell me, if thou " canst, what has detained thee from " our house so long; near a week has " passed, and you have never been near " us." Our hero sighed. " My sister," continued Frederick, " was this very " morning saying, she feared she had " frightened you away." He sighed still deeper. " But, however, she has " ordered me, if you wait for an in- " vitation, to give you one; she wants

“ much to see you, she has something
“ to say to you.” Our hero groaned,
Frederick stared; “ thou art plagiulily
“ out of sorts, my dear Harry, this
“ morning, but come, you shall dine
“ with us to-day, and I’ll engage we
“ will cure you of your melancholy.”
Bennet, without answering this invitation, cried out, “ You don’t know,
“ then, of my father’s determination
“ to send me from home; he has been,
“ unknown to me, procuring me a
“ commission in the guards! I am in
“ a month to leave you, my dear Frederick,
“ and what is still worse, I
“ must bid adieu to one, who, greatly
“ as I esteem you, is still far dearer to
“ me; one, whom I love, but must for
“ ever love in vain.” “ How is this,
“ my friend?” cries Frederick; “ this
“ is surely sudden; leave us so soon,
“ and one whom you so tenderly love
“ too; you have not dealt fairly with
“ me, Henry, you have kept this a se-
“ cret from me.” “ And I wish to my
“ soul,” exclaimed our hero, “ I could
“ have kept it a secret from myself!
“ my bosom burns with a desire, which
“ I know never can be gratified.” “ Who
“ is this fair one?” said Frederick,
“ the strictness of our friendship au-
“ thorizes me to demand this.” “ She
“ is

" is all that is lovely, pure, angelic."
 " And yet so cruel," cried Frederick?
 " Let me not accuse her of cruelty,"
 said our hero, " for as yet she herself
 " knows not that I love her, unless she
 " has read it in my eyes." " 'Tis very
 " new and strange all this, I must
 " confess," said Frederick. " That I
 " should never hear of it before is most
 " wonderful; but I ask again who is
 " she? whence hath this newly-found
 " angel sprung? what and where is the
 " sphere she illumines?" — " You will not
 " thank me, perhaps, for the informa-
 " tion," said Bennet, " she is purity,
 " love, and gentleness itself; I am un-
 " worthy of her! will you pardon me if
 " I tell you?" Frederick, without hesi-
 tation, assured him he would, and ad-
 ded, that she must literally be an angel
 of whom his friend was unworthy.—
 " Then," cried our hero, " your sister,
 " my friend, is the angel I adore! yes,
 " Julia, the lovely Julia is her name!"
 " —Julia! my sister!" said Frederick,
 with a countenance full of astonishment,
 " is it my sister whom you love?" This
 our hero ratified with sundry vehement
 assurances, and proceeded again to de-
 plore his unfortunate attachment to
 one, with whom it was impossible he
 should ever be united by the laws of

honor. "And may the man," said he,
" who would ever harbour for one mo-
" ment in his breast the horrid thought
" of possessing such a jewel by any
" other, be a wretch accursed!" In
" which wish Frederick most cordially
joined him, swearing at the same time
most solemnly, that if any man should
be hardy enough to make even an at-
tempt of that kind, he would pursue
him to the remotest quarter of the
globe, to revenge his sister's honor with
the villain's blood: a resolution, which
met with a most gracious acceptation
from our hero, who declared it was
worthy of his friend, and just what he
himself would do, had Providence bles-
sed him with so lovely a sister, and any
miscreant had dared to attack her virtue.
Frederick, though not a little delighted
to find his sister the object of his friend's
passion, was proceeding, without delay,
to thank him for the honor he did her
and the family, by his attachment to
her, and at the same time to urge (as in
honor he thought himself bound to do)
the poverty of his sister, when our hero
proceeded as follows: But, my dear
" Frederick, how shall I own to you,
" that it is upon this very account that
" my father has thus designed to banish
" me?—he is a man passionately attach-

" ed.

“ ed to riches, and he had observed my
“ frequent visits to your house, with a
“ watchfulness which certainly pro-
“ ceeded from a fear of some intimacy
“ with your sister.—I despise the con-
“ sideration of fortune myself, my dear
“ Frederick, but for every shilling I
“ expect I am dependent wholly upon
“ my father; he is very rich indeed,
“ but I know his disposition well, and
“ am perfectly convinced, that if ever
“ he should know I had married your
“ sister, he would sooner leave his whole
“ fortune to absolute strangers than
“ give me a single shilling.” To this
Frederick answered nothing, but looked
very grave. “ But this obstacle,” con-
tinued Bennet, “ great as you must
“ confess it to be, is still nothing, com-
“ pared with that which two other most
“ important considerations raise in my
“ way, and which are never to be con-
“ quered; the dread of reducing the
“ woman I love to want and misery by
“ an imprudent perseverance in my af-
“ fection, and the fear of grieving the
“ mind of a parent, ever tenderly in-
“ clined towards me; and which doth
“ appear to me an offence of no light
“ or trivial kind.” Frederick applau-
ded these virtuous sentiments, and de-
clared he could not but own that these

obstacles were of a very serious nature; at least, if not insurmountable. "Thus, " my dear friend," said Bennet, " you see I do not appear to be unhappy without a cause; in truth, I am at this moment the most wretched fellow in the world, and if I have been loth to discover the real truth to you, the concern you have in the discovery must plead my excuse. I love your sister with an affection, the purity of which forbids me to disclose it to her under my present unhappy circumstances." Having said this, he uttered a second groan. Frederick endeavored to comfort him in a long conversation that ensued, which ended at length in an agreement to keep the whole a secret between themselves for the present, and in an alignment for a visit the next day from Bennet. This being settled, the young gentleman returned home, and acquainted his family with the intended departure of his friend.

There was a stroke in one of Frederick's speeches during the last conversation, with which our hero did not feel himself greatly delighted; he knew, indeed, that Frederick was jealous of his sister's honor, and he also knew the confidence that existed between them,

but

But these became still more formidable from every fresh recollection of the words; " If any man should make an attempt upon my sister's honor, I will pursue him to the remotest quarter of the globe, to revenge it with the villain's blood."—" I must get this bloody minded fellow out of the way," said he, " or every plan I lay will be rendered abortive, and I myself may, perhaps, fall a sacrifice to his brutal fury. The perplexities in which these reflections involved him, rendered his mind, which had nothing in its composition firm or manly, truly unpleasant; plots in embryo, schemes half formed, and numberless undigested ideas led him through the day and greatest part of the night; and administered to him just so much ease, as doth or ought to fall to the share of every man, who chooses to tread in the uneven paths of treachery.

END OF THE THIRD BOOK.

BOOK

BOOK THE FOURTH

C H A P E R

Of cunning.

IN the course of our observations we have found occasion to remark the difference between cunning and wisdom, and at the same time; the folly and ignorance of those, who, by confounding the one with the other, do a great injury to the interests of true wisdom; as the reader may meet with an instance or two of this in the following book, we shall beg his indulgence for a minute upon this necessary and important point. The learned lord Bacon, if we mistake not, somewhere says, that these are two unfortunate properties in a man, viz. that he have within him a little of the fool, and not too much of the knave, from which we may infer that there are some things very well to be known, but that at the same time there are others, which may as well be let alone; and to know which of these to choose, and which to reject, appears to be no unworthy characteris-

tic of wisdom, and the rather as the wise man hath in his aim, not the solitary interest of his estate alone, but the interest and welfare of virtue also. The aims and desires of the cunning man, on the contrary, are all found to centre in himself, and his own interests; or if they do ever tend to the concerns of others, it is only that he may devise the most safe and expeditious means of converting their property to his own use. The success of these is sometimes pretty equal, but in the reward their labors meet with, there is generally this little difference, that while the latter are frequently caressed, esteemed, and admired for their great abilities, the former are held in derision, and are probably condemned to waste their lives in a fruitless dance of attendance on certain of those gentlemen, upon whom fortune hath wisely been pleased to bestow every thing, Because in reality they deserve nothing.

As a man cannot become truly wise, without being first of all ennobled by virtue, so will he not be worthy of the title of cunning, until he hath introduced into his principles a pretty good degree of roguery, and indeed until such roguery be introduced, he will have no occasion for the aid of cunning.

in his transactions with mankind, since this quality is only of use, either in our imposing upon others, or in endeavoring to shield such impositions from detection. And indeed, of such notable utility in these noble designs, hath this same quality of cunning been found by many persons, that it is at present in wonderful request among all conditions of men. Hence it is, that that excellent and respectable body of merchants, called sharpers, are so anxious to be in possession of a portion of this kind of ready wit, which, if well managed, doth effectually supersede the necessity of ready money. Nor less is this exquisite art beloved and studied by those dutiful sons and excellent disciples of the thieving god, whom Horace hath celebrated in his tenth Ode,

*Calidum quicquid placuit joco so.
Condere furto;*

who with sleek appearance and pleasant aspect, are every day seen to greet the unwary customer, whose shops are indeed the temples of Laverna, in which, with a sincerity seldom found in modern temples, they may be said daily to offer that prayer so well known to their cheating brethren of old,

Pulchra Laverna—

Da mibi fallere, da justum sanctumque videri.

Hence too it is, that those gentlemen, (would to Heaven we could except them, and call them honest) to whom the vulgar have recourse for the explanation of those laws, which no one but themselves are able to explain, are daily adding to all their other acquirements of learning and sagacity, this of cunning, by which they are at once enabled to define to us what our property is, and kindly to save us the trouble of taking care of it ourselves.

But, to mention one example further, in which this cunning is preferred to wisdom, as more to the point, we will instance, with the reader's leave, that sagacious and worthy tribe of lovers, whose affections are confined solely to the fortunes or persons of their mistresses. As these gentlemen generally find it necessary to bide for a time their real intentions, so do they also find it necessary to substitute apparently honest ones in their stead, and hence they require to be tolerably well versed in the arts of deception or cunning, before they begin to play their game; to this account may be very fairly placed all those honourable and generous

generous sentiments, which we now unfrequently find flowing pretty freely from the lips of those, to whose bosoms the sensations of either are perfect strangers. Of this order, as the reader, doubtless, hath by this time discovered, is that redoubted personage whose history we are giving to the world; and if his cunning procure him success, it will not be so much to be wondered at, since he will by no means be the only artful man, who hath obtained that good fortune he doth not deserve to enjoy. But although through many cunning arts a man may arrive at the attainment of his wishes, he will never by the exercise of them obtain that happiness which is ever the lot of the truly wise man; and this doth not only proceed from the very nature of those wishes a cunning man must necessarily entertain in his bosom, and which is inimical to felicity, but also from a certain unpleasant sensation which is inseparable from it, namely, the fear of detection; the dread of this is a sting which, with all his art and cunning, he cannot draw; it corrodes his mind in the midst of his pleasures, and it takes from his enjoyments the very soul of all enjoyment, conscious rectitude and safety.

safety. If, therefore, my good reader, thou envy those their greatness who have risen to that greatness by the mean and unworthy arts of cunning, remember, that though they may be reckoned the most fortunate, they are not the most happy men. Look upon such, as persons deserving rather your pity than your hatred or envy, and recollect, that while there is not a more contemptible object in the world than a cunning man, even though he roll in affluence, so is there not a more noble one to be found, than that man, whose conscious wisdom and virtue have given him poverty, and the command of himself.

From such a recollection as this, learn to know, that as soon as ever a cunning, sly, or mean action, be necessary to aid thee in thy designs, those designs are unworthy of thee,—truth and sincerity are the characteristics of the wise and upright.—Let truth and sincerity then be thine; without these it is true thou mayest be rich, but thou canst never be either honorable or happy.

C H A P. II.

In which our hero visits Julia.

THE next day Bennet paid a visit to the Johnsons. He had taken care to convey a certain gloominess into his aspect, which was remarked by Mr. Johnson. "Is it possible, Sir," said Henry, "I can be happy, when I am about to be deprived of the conversation of persons, who from their virtues have become valuable to my esteem? But it is the wish of a father hitherto indulgent, and to that wish I will submit without reluctance. My friend Frederick hath, doubtless, apprised you of the particulars." Our hero here drew forth a heavy sigh, which was accompanied with an audible one from Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and Frederick, and a half suppressed one from the tender bosom of Julia, who indeed found some difficulty in restraining the immediate effusion and still more visible testimonies of her concern at the uneasiness of our hero. So greatly, indeed, was she discomposed, that she found it at length necessary to feign an excuse

excuse for leaving the room a few minutes. Our politic hero greatly exulted in the success of this essay, and resolved to improve upon it as opportunity might offer.

The old people did not fail very highly to extol the willingness of the young man to obey his father, but at the same time expressed their surprise, that an old gentleman, who was possessed of so amiable and deserving a son, should so easily part with him; nay, compel him to choose a situation, in which, they supposed, his person and his virtues were exposed to equal danger. "Every man has his weaknesses," said our hero, "but far be it from me "to expose those of a father, whom I "most ardently love and respect. If "the reasons he hath given me are not "such as I can think sufficient for his "conduct in this matter, he hath, "doubtless, others, to which, although "he doth not think proper to reveal "them to me, it is my part, as a dutiful son, to submit." The honest couple again praised the virtuous resolution of our hero.

By this time the dinner appeared, and with it also appeared Julia, who had regained a sufficient degree of composure to attend at the table with a tolerable

terable appearance of ease. The time of dinner, and indeed the whole afternoon, proved extremely dull; and though Mr. Johnson endeavored even more than usual to enliven it with the effusions of that innocent wit and pleasantry which he possessed, still the gloom continued on our hero's brow; his pensiveness at length communicated itself to the company, and consequently that kind of conversation ensued with which we will not trouble the reader.

These visits were repeated for some time, much against the will of Old Bennet, who, however, hoping his son's intended absence would dissolve the connection he had formed with the Johnsons, desisted from any further remonstrances upon the subject. In the course of these he omitted no opportunity of ingratiating himself with the fair Julia, and with such success, that the deluded young lady waited only for an explicit declaration of his love, which he had not yet made, to avow her own. This declaration he at last did make, as we shall shew in due time.

On a very pleasant evening, Julia, Frederick, and our hero, set out together for a walk. They had not proceeded

ceeded far, when a servant came after them, and acquainted Frederick that his father wished to see him immediately; it was proposed by Julia to return, but Frederick desired Henry and his sister would continue their walk, and promised, if he could, to overtake them; Julia, after some little hesitation, agreed to comply.

Frederick returned to his father, and our lovers pursued their walk, which we shall wish a pleasant one, while we attend Frederick a few minutes to enquire the reason of his father's hasty and unexpected message. Our little company had not left the house many minutes, when a countryman desired to see young Mr. Johnson, with whom, he said, he had business of great consequence. As he seemed extremely desirous of seeing Frederick, Mr. Johnson ordered the servant to follow him, and in the mean time desired the man, after he had taken a cup of ale, to attend him in the parlour. When the man entered the room, Mr. Johnson demanded of him who he came from, and what was his business with his son.
" Why, an please your honor's worship," said the fellow, " who I comes from is one thing, as the saying is, and what's my business, is another; " and

“ and for the matter of that I hardly
 “ knows what my business is neither,
 “ only I have a letter here for your
 “ honor’s son, which comes from a
 “ gentleman, who said he had it from
 “ another gentleman, who ordered me
 “ to deliver it to young Mr. John-
 “ son.”—“ And so friend,” said Mr.
 Johnson, “ you don’t know who the
 “ gentleman is that employed you to
 “ carry this letter to my son?”—“ No
 “ marry do I not,” said the fellow. “ As
 “ I carries letters and parcels from our
 “ town to Stamford, I am oft employed
 “ by persons I don’t know nothing of;
 “ but I was ordered to wait for an
 “ answer.” Frederick, who was now
 returned, entered the parlour, and
 having received the letter, opened it,
 and read as follows:

TO MR. FREDERICK JOHNSON.

“ SIR,

“ A knowledge of your
 “ merit, no less than of the scantiness
 “ of your fortune, has induced a gen-
 “ tleman, who respects the one as
 “ much as he regrets the other, to
 “ make you the offer of a provision
 “ worthy of a gentleman: the lieute-
 “ nancy of the —— regiment, under
 o ders

"orders for the West Indies, together
"with the place of Secretary to Gene-
"ral —, are now vacant, and ready
"for your acceptance; the emoluments
"of the latter are handsome, and the
"whole may prove a road to your pre-
"ferment; — the commission is inclo-
"sed. And as no time is to be lost,
"your acceptance or refusal is requested
"by the bearer. In case of the for-
"mer of which, you will be with Co-
"lonel Atkins, at Whitehall, in the
"course of a week. — You must be
"content to remain ignorant of your
"friend in this affair for the present;
"but you may be made acquainted
"with him, perhaps, hereafter."

The bearer of this letter was again interrogated from whom he brought it, but of this he either really was, or pretended to be ignorant. After some hesitation, and a great deal of astonishment at the strangeness of this affair, Frederick prevailed upon the messenger to make it in his way on his return from Stamford, from which he was not to return till the next day, to call for an answer, which, although it was, as he said, four long miles, out o' his road, he at length agreed to do; the inducement held out to him being indeed

of

of that kind, which it is not generally in the power of these gentry to resist.

When the honest fellow was departed, a council was called to debate upon this very extraordinary matter, the first minutes of which were fully employed in surmising from whom the letter should come. They all declared they had never the least acquaintance with such a hand writing. At length it was resolved, as the matter appeared equally intricate and important, to postpone the final discussion of it till our hero and Julia should return from their walk. This some time after happened, and that conversation ensued which we shall relate, after we have made some little enquiry after the welfare of our absent lovers.

C H A P. III.

In which the reader takes a walk with Mr. Bennet and Julia.

WHETHER it be owing to the fancy those sagacious gentlemen, the poets, have ever taken to make woods and groves,

groves, and rural scenes, the scenes of love, or whether it be, that from any intimacy subsisting between the little god, and those gentle ladies the Dryads, the said woods do seem to awaken the sensations of love above every other, I know not, but it hath been represented, that amorous ideas are frequently attendant upon these rambles among flowery meads and shady groves, and by the sides of rivulets and purling streams. Such were the ideas with which the solitary wildness of the scene inspired the bosom of our lovers, for they soon found themselves in the midst of an extensive wood, and that conversation passed between them which shall be presented to the reader, after we have remarked a little circumstance which happened previous to it.

In their walk, Julia informed our hero of the great poverty of one Goody Potter, a poor woman whom she had taken under her protection, and added, with a smile of wonderful benignity, "I believe, Sir, I must recommend her to your charity; she is very worthy of it, I assure you, we shall pass by her cottage presently." Bennet replied, that to relieve the distressed, though vicious, was sometimes a duty, but that when worthy themselves, and

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recommended by the amiable, it was almost a divine pleasure. Julia received this in its full force, and it was recorded in her heart. They presently arrived at the cottage; the old woman, though very unable, would rise to welcome such unexpected visitors. "Well, " Goody, " said Julia, with one of those smiles that would have become an angel, " how do you do? did not you " think I had almost forgotten you?" (for above a week had passed since Julia had been with her) " Aye, good " lack-a-day, young lady, to think I " should be so honored now! no, to " be sure, I did not think you had for- " got me; I know your ladyship's good- " ness too well. But, an I be not too " bold," continued Goody Potter, " who " is this fine young gentleman pray, " who has come to my poor cottage?" Julia satisfied her, he was a neighbour. " Good lack-a-day, your ladyship," said the old woman, " an it please you, " I hope, I hope," hesitating. " What " dost thou hope, Goody? said Henry. " Alack-a day, Sir," said she, " will " you forgive me, a poor old woman? " but I hope you are her ladyship's " gentleman; an you be, God send his " blessing upon you both; you are a " charming couple." Julia blushed. " Thank

“ Thank ye, Goody,” said our hero smiling, “ there’s some return for your “ good wishes,” putting a guinea into her hand; “ take this for the present, and “ I shall make this lady my trustee “ for more, as you may want it.” Goody Potter’s tongue was tied for a moment, and Julia was enraptured with our hero for his generosity to her old woman. At length the poor creature, having recovered the use of her tongue, poured forth a torrent of prayers, blessings and thanksgivings; which did not cease till Henry and his fair companion, who presently departed, had lost sight of the cottage. A short silence ensued this little adventure, which was interrupted by Julia; who, after thanking our hero for the honor he had done to her recommendation, expressed her surprize and concern, that a bosom so filled with generous and noble sentiments, should know that care which she said too evidently appeared in his saddened countenance; “ and “ which,” she added, “ I am sorry to “ see, Sir, you so ineffectually strug- “ gle to subdue.” This was the very thing our hero wanted, and therefore, after a little necessary hesitation, he spoke as follows: “ You will cease “ to wonder, Madam, that I am de-

“jected, when I tell you I am most
“wretched; when you shall know that
“I have nothing but certain misery
“before me. Oh Julia! can you
“feel for me, can you pity me?”
“Why should I not pity a worthy, suf-
“fering mind?” said Julia, with
some hesitation; “I do not know it
“is a crime.” “I could for ever bless
“those words,” cried our hero in an
extasy which startled his companion,
“and those dear, dear lips, which
“have uttered them, but alas! I must
“be ungrateful for your pity; yes, I
“must; but can you forgive me?”
“Forgive you, Mr. Bennet!” cried Ju-
lia, in a consternation, for both his
voice and manner were wild, “Lord
“bless me, what can you mean?”
“Say but you will forgive me, too
“charming Julia; say but will you
“forgive me, for what I am going to
“declare, and I will be calm.” “I
“will forgive you, I have forgiven
“you,” cries Julia still more fright-
ened, “What is it you mean?” “Then
“by Heaven!” said Henry, “if I am
“the most wretched man in the world,
“to you it is owing that I am so.”
“To me,” said Julia! Heaven pro-
“tect me! what is it you say?” Her
altered countenance and heaving bo-
tom

she plainly spoke the disorder of her mind ; a pause of near a minute ensued, during which time our hero conceived the abominable idea of perpetrating accursed villainy : his passions were on fire, her beauty appeared ten thousand times more captivating than ever at that moment, and the loneliness of the place contributed to aid the detestable thought ; he actually encircled her in his arms, and imprinted a rude kiss of lust upon her unpolluted lips, when, either the good genius of Julia, or that evil one which Henry served, interfered at this time for her rescue. In a moment he recollects the danger and disgrace which would inevitably follow the gratification of his desires at that time, and the hope he had before him of fulfilling them with security, at a period not distant ; he relinquished his hold, and dropping upon his knee, seized her hand, and in the most respectful manner entreated her pardon for that excess of which he had been guilty, vowing his heart was wholly devoted to her alone. To these assurances our heroine made no reply for some time ; at last, whether she was moved by the numberless protestations he made of the innocence of his intentions, and of

the most sincere and respectful love towards her, or whether the recollection of his expected absence, which indeed he did not fail to urge, moved her, we know not, but at length she began to speak in the following manner : " You " cannot be much surprised, Sir, if I " should resent the matter in which you " have behaved to me, unprotected as I " am just now, but"—" For God's sake, " madam," cries Bennet, interrupting her, " do not say you are unprotected ; " surely you do not want to be protected from me. I swear by Heaven " my heart is your's ! I will ever be " your protector and friend. Oh my " Julia ! let me entreat you to consider " me as such." Julia here gave him a look which, if the devil had not had very fast hold of his heart, must have driven from it every nefarious purpose — he proceeded, " Yet what do I say ! " oh my cruel, cruel father !" he then took her hand, and applied it to his lips, but his manner was so respectful, that the fears and anger of Julia began to disperse together. " Can you forgive me " this offence of love ?" said he. " Speak " my Julia, say I am forgiven ; never will I " leave this spot, if you do not tell me I " am forgiven." At length, after some hesitation, she said, " You will think me " too

" too easy, Sir, perhaps ; I forgive that
" in my brother's friend, which in ano-
" ther I should not be so easily induced
" to pardon ; but for Heaven's sake let
" us hasten home ; they will wonder what
" is become of us, and I am really im-
" patient to hear why my father sent so
" hastily for Frederick back." " Charm-
" ing Julia," said our hero, " how im-
" possible is it to converse with you, and
" not to love you ; a thousand thanks,
" for the forgiveness you have so kindly
" granted ; the warmth of my love ill-
" brooks delay, but I will learn to love
" from you : and oh ! remember, that
" from this moment my heart is your's
" alone." Much further conversation
passed between the lovers, which detained
them, notwithstanding Julia's haste,
a considerable time in their walk. Ben-
net protested it was the most lovely
night he had ever seen, and that he
could willingly spend the whole of it in
such delightful conversation ; " but,"
said he, " let me beg that the decla-
" ration I have made of my love for
" you, be known to ourselves alone ;
" I have speial reasons for wishing
" this, which at a very short opportu-
" nity I will unfold to you." To this
Julia likewise agreed, and they at
length arrived at home.

C H A P. IV.

Very, short.

THEY had not long been at home, before Julia, who was really impatient to know what that important thing was which had called Frederick home, and detained him from following them, desired her brother would inform her. He immediately drew forth the letter we have before mentioned; this he read, and then Mr. Johnson, having acquainted Bennet with the little time given to him to debate the matter, asked his advice, as the friend of himself and his son, how he should proceed. "The offer I must own," said our hero, with a grave countenance, "is very advantageous, the object of it hath been, I believe some time, my friend's wish, and I am happy too to add, that Col. Atkins, mentioned in the letter, is a very good man, and a gentleman; I have often heard my father speak of him. The only objection that there can be to my friend's accepting it, must arise from the tenderness of parental affection; this I know will ill brook the

“ the sudden parting with a beloved
“ son ; but it may be well at the same
“ time to consider the worth of that
“ son, and that the present seems to be
“ a road pointed out for him to that
“ preferment in life, of which he is so
“ worthy.” The eyes of the old peo-
ple thanked him for this. “ I should
“ be happy to know my friend in this
“ affair,” said Frederick. “ Whoever
“ he may be, I shall esteem myself
“ eternally obliged to him, not only
“ for the favor he hath done me, but
“ also for the delicacy with which he
“ hath imparted it.” “ Nor do I
“ esteem it less than yourself, I assure
“ you,” said old Johnson. “ Much as
“ I love my boy, Sir,” addressing him-
“ self to Bennet, “ and sure I am, no
“ man in the kingdom hath a son at
“ this moment dearer to him; my af-
“ fection is not of that womanish sort,
“ as to restrain me from considering his
“ benefit, as well as my own pleasure,
“ and I would therefore be the last man
“ in the world to dissuade him from
“ accepting this offer ; I have no for-
“ tune to give him, God knows ;
“ though once I could have hoped,
“ but that signifies nothing now, the
“ past cannot be recalled, and we must
“ submit to the will of Heaven : I have

“ no fortune to give him, and he must
“ therefore provide for himself. I am
“ only sorry we have so little notice,
“ but we must not always expect to
“ have every thing happen just as we
“ please.” It was at length, after some
reluctance expressed on the part of Mrs.
Johnson and Julia, who tenderly loved
her brother, and could ill bear the
thoughts of his absence, resolved that
young Johnson should go to town, and
he was accordingly desired by his father
to get an answer to that effect ready,
against the hour at which the mes-
senger was to call the next morning.
This being settled, our hero took leave
of the company, and returned to his
father's.

C H A P. V.

*Intended by the author for the benefit of
all whom it may concern.*

POOR Julia was so much embarras-
sed by a multitude of contending re-
flections, that she gladly retired to her
apartment for the evening, very soon
after Bennet had taken his leave. The
occurrences that had happened in the
walk

walk she had a little before enjoyed, were the first objects of her consideration; the sentiments Bennet had uttered just before their arrival at the cottage, and the manner in which he had behaved to the poor old woman, inexplicably charmed her, nor was she, for we must own all the truth, more pleased with his generosity for its intrinsic merit, than for that share of it, which she believed was owing to his affection for her. "Yes," said she to herself, "he is generous and disinterested, and from the goodness of his heart, would doubtless have bestowed a benefaction on this poor creature; but though benevolence is certainly a strong principle in him, love to me is a stronger — happy thought! I am beloved by him; I am the only object of his affections; has he not this day told me so? Yes, I am the happiest of women, because I am dear to the most amiable of men, oh! what a happy happy hour was that, in which he declared his passion." She paused a moment, and by a not unfrequent transition of the imagination, pictured herself in the midst of a lonely wood with her lover, and that lover, as though sensible of her unprotected situation; and willing to take advantage of it, insulting

sulting her with an embrace, in which more of unruly desire than of tender and respectful love was conspicuous. "Frightful idea!" exclaimed the maid, blushing; such was the delicacy of her virtue, at the very recollection of the scene, "too true, he dared, and yet " surely he could not dare to affront " me, he could not harbour a design " against my honor; but how wildly " did he look, how fiercely did he clasp " me in his arms; yet, when I remem- " ber his great solicitude for forgive- " ness, his vows of pure attachment, " his repeated assurances that the of- " fense he had given me was against his " own will, and proceeded from no- " thing but a sudden and impetuous " gust of passion, I think he could not " bear in his bosom a base intention; " it is impossible, let me do justice to " the generous youth; I am convinced " he could not; his virtuous soul must, " upon reflection, disdain and abhor " the idea." Though a consideration of the virtues of Bennet had lent love no trifling assistance in overcoming those incitements of fear or prudence in the bosom of Julia, yet we must honestly confess, it was not the only one which influenced that fair creature; the reader will remember, that the person of

of our hero was naturally formed for pleasing, but it is not in this age of happy taste and refinement, that simple nature is found to please: Julia lived in this age, and we cannot find, after a very long and intimate acquaintance with her sentiments, that she was so rigid a disciple of any sect of antient philosophers whatever, as to be totally free from the influences of appearance, which freedom we do indeed believe to have taken its departure from this world with the said philosophers, being as we apprehend, after a long and painful enquiry, the property of themselves alone, and therefore, as Bennet never omitted to take the utmost pains in adorning his person, so had this addition of the labours of art set off the charms of nature to such superior advantage, that Julia felt within no weakly emotions in his favour, from this source alone; a weakness, for which, doubtless, she will be highly censured by those of our female readers, who, in the first place, have never themselves been in love, or which is much the same thing, have never owned it; and who, in the second place, are great admirers of those delightful novels, the heroes and heroines of which are possessed of such ennobled virtues, as would doubtless

doubtless excite in every reader a worthy spirit of emulation, did it not unluckily happen, that a certain despair of attaining such excellence, effectually cures them of it. Of a few of such performances, and of a few only, it may be truly said, the beauty of their language is their chief excellence; but alas!

L'Eloquence des paroles
N'est que l'art ingenieux,
D'amuser nos sens frivoles,
Par des tours harmonieux.

Nor were the prepossessing exterior of Henry, and the consideration of his virtues, the only pleaders in favour of that young gentleman; the concern he had in his saddened countenance, together with the idea of his intended departure from the country, greatly affected the sensible bosom of Julia.

To the united force, then, of all these gentle affections of the mind was it owing, that our hero, in spite of the rude and alarming attack upon Julia in the wood above commemorated, obtained a decision in his favour, at the conclusion of that conference which Julia had called in her bosom. We shall now leave her to enjoy all those delightful

delightful ideas that innocence and love can form, while we enquire a little, into what passed in our hero's mind at the same time.

Sleep or more properly speaking, rest, is not a very close attendant upon that plotting, mischievous part of the species, which is employed in devising the means of over-reaching and destroying the inoffensive and heedless; nor did she appear on this evening very careful to attend our hero, who was at this time engaged in the wickedest of all contrivances, that of the misery and ruin of a woman who loved him. Three or four hours were spent by him, his head upon his pillow, in desultory and uneasy reflections, in which the impatience of pride, the uncertainty of doubt, the fear of defeat, and consequent detection, and we are sorry we cannot add, any powerful workings of his conscience, bore at different times a pretty large share, nor when he had closed his eyes in sleep, did he greatly gain by the temporary oblivion (if the term may be allowed) of his torment, for his heated imagination was still active, and led him to the lovely object of his waking contemplations. He found himself in the midst of that wood, which not many hours before he

had

had left, and with him Julia ; the same villainous intentions suggested themselves, and he resolved to gratify his base desires ; to this end he insidiously conducted her to a more solitary part of the wood, than that in which they then appeared to be, and finding every allurement and entreaty vain, he had recourse to compulsion. After a long and violent struggle, he seemed to be upon the very point of accomplishing his infamous purposes, when he found himself assailed from behind by an enemy, who from the fierceness of his attack, appeared to be of no inferior strength ; our hero, quitting his fair prize, turned hastily round, and drawing his sword, was about to repel this unexpected, and insolent intruder, when a mask falling from the stranger's face, discovered to the dismayed Bennet the countenance of Frederick. Shame, horror, and despair, in a moment seized him, his sword fell from his hand, and his antagonist, whom he was now no longer able to resist, imprecating curses upon his deceitful head, was about to plunge a dagger to his heart, when the words, " die villain, " die ! " which appeared to issue very violently from the mouth of the assailant, together with his own terrors at the approach of instant death, awakened

our

our hero from this dream of horror; the impression of which however upon his spirits, threw him into so great a consternation, that he was not able to close his eyes again during the remainder of the night. In an universal perspiration then, occasioned by the before mentioned affright, did the hero of this history lie, till the approach of morning. And here perhaps our readers would willingly enquire whether in the midst of his fears, Bennet did not form some purpose of refraining from his evil designs against Julia; whether or not this was the case, we do not certainly know, but if any such idea did suggest itself to him, it was only of the same kind with the good resolutions, which some of those unfortunate rogues, who have not been able to elude the hands of the hangman, do most heartily make, but which, if by any means they still escape the gallows, they as heartily relinquish, for the benefit of those of their fellows, who have not had similar good fortune. In plain words, no sooner had the arrival of the morning dissipated his terror, than he began to wonder at his folly, in having been a dupe to it, and resolved to lose no time in completing the conquest he had

had meditated over the heart, or rather the person of Julia.

C H A P. VI.

An accident happens to Berquet, its consequences, and other matters.

THE next morning, our hero, soon after breakfast, mounted his horse for a morning's ride, which he intended to close at Johnson's. He at length came within sight of that house which contained the fair object of his appetite, and which he would, no doubt, have reached in perfect safety, had not an accident hindered him from so doing; this was no other than a fall from his horse. — The beast, who was in the main a quiet creature, had suddenly taken fright, and became so unruly, that our hero was unable to keep his seat, and before the servant, who was indeed some little distance behind, could render him any assistance, he was thrown violently into the road, just before a window, at which Julia at that moment

moment unfortunately happened to be standing. Upon seeing the dreadful danger of her Bennet, she screamed for assistance, and fell backwards on the floor; the whole family were alarmed in a moment, and all who were able, viz. Frederick, the messenger, who had been some time arrived, and two servants, ran out to assist in picking up the young gentleman, his own servant having dispatched himself in pursuit of the fugitive horse, who, being freed from his rider, had betaken himself to his heels with still greater fury than before. We shall, however, leave him and his pursuer to take their route, (which was accompanied with many oaths and imprecations on the part of the latter, to the no small delight and entertainment of certain of those country gentlemen, called bumkins, who were spectators of the fight) while we attend their unfortunate master and his supporters. These latter having brought him into the house, carried him to an apartment with all possible expedition, and somebody was dispatched in search of a surgeon.

The surgeon presently arrived; he was one of those ignorant, superficial fellows, who take much greater delight in the gaping wonder of two or three

three people, more ignorant, if possible, than themselves, than in the recovery of a patient, and whose behaviour and long speeches we should with pleasure have delineated to the reader for his entertainment, could we have hoped to draw a more perfect picture of this contemptible character, than that which was some time ago exhibited to the world, by the great master of human nature, whom in this our work we profess to follow, suffice it then, that he conducted himself at this time in such a manner as might be expected, though he could not but perceive, stupid as he was, that his grand displays of learning and ability, were rewarded neither by Mr. Johnson, or his son, with any of those looks of wonder and amazement, after which he so greedily sought. When he had finished his discourse, which indeed nothing could stop, and dressed the wounds of his patient, of whose recovery he expressed much doubt, and whom he ordered not to be removed on any account, saying, he should see him again in the evening, he strutted off much better satisfied with himself than he had left any part of his tired audience. But if the astonishment of Frederick or his father was not much excited at the emptiness of this conceited

ceited coxcomb, it was abundantly moved at a circumstance, which we shall here present to the reader. Among the persons who ran out to the assistance of our dismounted hero, the reader will be pleased to remember we mentioned the messenger, who had arrived at Johnson's upon the business of the letter, which hath already been seen ; this fellow also assisted in conveying Henry to a chamber, and no sooner had they wiped away the blood which covered his face, than he exclaimed, " Why, " God bless my soul, this is the very " gentleman has employed me to give " that letter to your honor!" — " This " the gentleman?" cried Johnson, not a little amazed, " you must be mis- " taken, my friend, the young gentle- " man lives not a mile from this house, " and is an intimate friend of mine ; it " cannot be." — " I does not know any " thing about whether it can or cannot " be," said the fellow, " but I wish I " was as sure of ten pounds as I am " that the gentleman that lies there is " the gentleman has gave me the letter " for your honor's son." He was pro- ceeding to give further proofs of this, when the surgeon arrived, as before- mentioned, — the man then retired, and was ordered to stop till Mr. John- son

son could speak to him ; he accordingly descended to the kitchen, where he liberally entertained himself with many praises of Mr. Johnson's ale, sundry large draughts of which he swallowed, while that passed between the surgeon and his audience, which we have above omitted to relate. When the former of these was departed, and the patient was laid quietly in bed, young Johnson sent for the man into the parlour, and again asked him if he was sure the gentleman above stairs was the person who had employed him to deliver the letter. He affirmed it with some vehemence, adding, " If that there gentleman above stairs been't the very same gentleman as gave me the letter to give your honor, why then I been't certain, as a man may say, who is my vather, — if so be I should see 'un, that's all. — Besides, your honor, another thing as I knowshim by is, he often rides through our town upon that very same horse as just now threw 'un." — " But did not the gentleman who gave you the letter for me," said Frederick, " mention his name ?" — " No, truly, and please ye, a did'nt mention no name to me ; for when I said to 'un, says I, from whom am I to say I comes when I gees the letter ? never mind that, my lad, says he, only deliver the letter, — so,

“ — so, as he paid me very well, without
“ any more ado away I comes.” After fur-
ther conversation of little importance, the
fellow departed, with many bows and
scrapes, in return for a certain pecu-
niary acknowledgment Johnson had
made him for his trouble on the occa-
sion.—While we leave Frederick and
his father to confer with each other on
this unaccountable incident, the good
natured reader will doubtless willingly
accompany us to the apartment of Ju-
lia, whom we left in a situation which
must have excited his commiseration,
and after whom we are very anxious to
make some enquiry. When Mrs. John-
son and the servant had arrived with
Julia at her chamber, that poor young
lady, distracted with a thousand fears
for the safety of our hero, longed to
hear the issue of that dreadful acci-
dent, the sight of which had filled
her with such terror—Yet did she
not dare to make any enquiry in
the presence of her mother, lest
that good lady should entertain sus-
picions of what she was herself most
desirous to conceal. The torture of
this suspense grew almost intolerable,
and it was with the greatest difficulty
she could prevent herself from fainting;
this, however, she did, and by the aid
of

of a glass of water or two added to her resolution, she at length summoned a pretty considerable degree of cheerfulness into her countenance, and assured her mother more than once, that she was now very well. To say the truth, the carefulness of Julia was a little of the latest, as her mother had some time before suspected something of the situation of her daughter's mind, which the present behaviour of the young lady not a little confirmed. Julia had therefore no sooner got the better of her indisposition, than Mrs. Johnson was proceeding to make one of those speeches on the present occasion which mothers are in general much fonder of delivering to their daughters, than the latter are of hearing, and which we would have gladly presented to the reader, had the old lady given us an opportunity, by making it; this she did not do, and if the reader is therefore disappointed, the only alleviation we have to offer is, that this omission was the very thing which Julia most desired. Luckily at this moment, when poor Julia was attending to the preface or prologue to this intended lecture, and sat trembling with expectation of what was about to follow, a message came from Mr. Johnson, desiring

siring the attendance of his wife in the parlour below. This summons the good lady, finding her daughter so considerably amended, immediately obeyed; to the great joy of our heroine. Mrs. Johnson had no sooner left the room, than Julia dispatched the servant to enquire after our hero. Happy in being a moment alone, she immediately shed a flood of tears which the presence even of her mother could not much longer have restrained. "Unfortunate "youth!" she exclaimed, "unhappy "accident! O heavens, if he has lost "his life! but why am I thus agitated? "a moment will inform me. Yet in "a moment Lucy may bring me the "fatal tidings. Wretched girl! if that "dear youth has fallen thus suddenly "a victim! but I will hope." Again tears relieved her almost bursting heart, till, hearing the tread of somebody on the stairs, it beat with redoubled turbulence. Lucy entered, and Julia looking in her face, a remaining tear trickling down her cheek, "Dear Lu- "cy," said she, trembling, "what do "you tell me? how is Capt. Bennet?" "Oh! dear madam, you actually fright- "en me." said Lucy, "do take ano- "ther glass of water. I am sure:" "Do prythee, Lucy, answer me, how "is

" is Mr. Bennet?" " Oh, la! Mr. Bennet, ma'am, John tells me, is sadly bruised all over, and has besides, two great cuts on his right arm, which the doctor says, is very bad indeed; he is now asleep, and the doctor has ordered him not to be moved." Julia thanked Heaven in her heart, that her Bennet had escaped with his life, and having told Lucy she might now go down, prepared to follow her presently. Some writer, we believe, has been before hand with us in observing, that the great dread of a terrible evil being happily removed, all the consequent terrors are found to vanish also, and the mind, relieved from its highest fear, permits hope very easily to subdue for a time, at least the less important, and to enliven a little, that dark prospect which it hath been for some time uncomfortably contemplating. Whatever exceptions there may be to the truth of this idea, Julia did not at present form one, for no sooner had this gentle creature been informed, as we have seen, concerning her Bennet, and dismissed the maid, than she gave uncontrolled way to every emotion of fond and pleasing expectation. Reader, if thou be capable of such sensations as at this time operated

operated upon the heart of Julia, if thou have a heart within thee, sensible of the emotions of sorrow; if thy bosom have ever felt for thy own griefs, or those of others, I congratulate thee; but if thou have not such a heart, I pity thee; for he whose breast is incapable of the sensations of grief, must be dead also to the most exalted ideas of happiness.

We shall now proceed to enquire a little after the sick man, and to account for the conduct of our hero, who was in fact, as may be supposed, the author of the above recorded letter, which had excited so much wonder in the elder and younger Johnson, and at which Mrs. Johnson and Julia were equally, doubtless, astonished — but for this, no less for our own ease than for that of the reader, we shall take a fresh chapter.

C H A P. VII.

In which the conduct of our hero is accounted for.

IN the evening the doctor, according to promise, visited the patient, and having examined into the state of his bruises and wounds, declared that he must be kept still, or he would not answer for the consequences. "And, Sir," said he, addressing himself to Henry, " notwithstanding the impatience of your good father, upon whom, according to your desire, I have called, I must insist you do not think of a removal for at least a week or ten days to come. It is true, no bone is broken, but your blood is in a very irritated state, from the contusions you have received, and any motion would have a direct tendency to produce a fever, of which indeed I think there are even now unpleasant symptoms. The old gentleman is so anxious to have you at home, (and who can wonder at it) that I promised him you should not stay here a day after a removal could be attempted

“ tempted with safety. I must see you, “ Sir, for the present, three times a “ day; things may be much worse than “ they appear, and many a man, for “ want of a little timely care, has lost “ his life. Beside, your habit is bad, “ as I told your father; it wants rec- “ tifying, and you must really be very “ careful, Sir, to take the things I shall “ send you.” He then proceeded to dress his patient, during which he several times shook his head. Having performed this, and added a few admonitions, he departed. In fact, our hero, though very much cut and bruised in his fall, was by no means in so dangerous a situation as the doctor represented. This he well knew; but as he had to the full as strong a desire to remain where he was, as his father had for him to come home, he did not once offer to assure the doctor he was much better, and indeed had he given any assurances of the sort, such was that gentleman's confidence in his own judgment, that they would in all probability have been wholly in vain.

However, in pursuance of the surgeon's orders, our hero was permitted to remain free from any disturbance for that evening, unless indeed we except that which he met with from the unset-

tled condition of his mind; this, to confess the truth, received no little addition from the painfulness of his wounds, and the impatience of his spirits under it.

We shall now, without further delay, proceed to explain to the reader the motives from which our hero had acted as hath been already seen. — It may be remembered we have somewhere before hinted, that in several of the conversations which had passed between Bennet and Frederick, the latter had often expressed with no little warmth his inveteracy against those, who without any remorse will sacrifice the honor and happiness of a young woman, and the expectation of her family, to the gratification of an idle, vicious passion, and that he had, in bringing home the idea to his sister, not unfrequently sworn he would be revenged on the man who should ever have the audacity to attempt her virtue, at those times intimating too, that he would always keep himself upon his guard to detect such villainy. These intimations our hero registered in his mind, and they determined him to proceed with the utmost caution in his designs against the honor of Julia, until he could find out some means of removing Frederick from that intimate intercourse

intercourse with the fair one, which he considered as an insurmountable obstacle to the completion of his licentious wishes. To meet with this, he resolved to make the most diligent enquiry; an occasion soon very opportunely offered. Mr. Johnson had long wanted to procure for his son such a situation in the military line, which the young gentleman as we have mentioned, preferred to all others, as might put him in a way to future preferment, but when he lost his fortune, he, like many other men in a similar state, lost his friends too, and, consequently, the interest necessary to the obtaining such a situation. This our hero, from the openness of the old gentleman's disposition, and his intimacy with the son, was well acquainted with — hearing therefore from the friend in town, whom he had employed on this occasion, of a vacant Lieutenancy in a regiment of foot, destined to the West Indies, with the Colonel of which his father had the most powerful of all possible interest, namely that which arose from having in his possession certain powers over the Colonel's estate, he one day took the opportunity of a pleasant humour in his father, to ask him for his interest with Colonel Atkins in favour of his friend. To

procure this, he well knew, would be no easy task. The old gentleman at first flatly refused his request; but the young one, resolved upon carrying his point, assailed him with such importunity that Titus, who really loved his son, began at last to relent. "I should," said our hero, "be so pressing as I am Sir, in favour of this poor young fellow, did I not know he was absolutely in want of some employ, and that it is out of the power of his father to procure it for him; and it is positively a pity, as he has no fortune, to see him loitering his time away here in idleness, an incumbrance on his father, and a burthen to himself." "I tell you what, Harry," said the old gentleman, "I would do any thing in my power to oblige you, but you know I utterly disapprove of your intimacy with Johnson's family, and yet you continue to frequent that house, in spite of all I can say." Our hero protested he had not been there so often since his father's desire on that subject had been known to him; "and you know, Sir," said he, that as I am shortly going to town, my intimacy with them will soon drop of course, and beside, Sir, you may judge of the sincerity of my wishes

“ wishes to oblige you, in this particular, by my soliciting your interest to send away the very person of the family with whom I am most intimate.”

“ Well, well, Harry,” replied the old man, “ enough has already been said upon this subject, and I believe you are ready to oblige me; I will therefore endeavour to write a line to Col. Atkins, but you must take this with you, I will not be known to have procured this for the young fellow, and indeed have only done it in compliance with your solicitations; so you must take care to acquaint him with it, when I have heard from the Colonel, in such a manner as shall entirely screen me in the dark.” Henry assured him, with many expressions of thanks, that his wishes should be complied with. A few days brought the desired answer from Colonel Atkins; this the old gentleman having communicated to our hero, he proceeded to acquaint his friend of the appointment thus obtained for him in the manner already related. But though Henry adopted this mode, partly perhaps in compliance with his father’s wishes, he had another reason for wishing to conceal the name of his benefactor from Frederick till after he had taken his de-

parture, which was neither more or less than a hope he had conceived, that at some future time after the departure of Frederick, an opportunity might offer of discovering himself as his friend, in a manner that would most effectually contribute to his further progress in the affections of the fair Julia, under the idea of a delicate and disinterested secrecy.

C H A P. VIII.

By which the reader may learn that wholesome lesson, if he hath not already learned it, so to act, as not to obtain the praise he doth not deserve.

IF the reader think our hero proceeded thus far in his plot, to subdue the virtue of Julia, and possess himself of her charming person, without any degree of remorse; if he suppose a path like this was pursued by him, without any stings of conscience, or any revoltings of the mind, we must beg to set him right in that point, by assuring him he is entirely

tirely wrong. *Nemo repente fuit turpissimus.* And Henry had not arrived at his present pitch of deceit, without encountering numberless remonstrances from a monitor, whom a remembrance of the precepts of Mr. Diphthong himself had not yet been able wholly to silence; and indeed, the real truth is, his mind was never perfectly at rest; one hour distracted with doubts how to proceed, another hour with those fears of detection in his contrivances, towards which we hinted in our first chapter of this book; and again oppressed with horrors, which are known only to a guilty mind, and overcome with terrors, which the virtuous never feel. Oftentimes, when he reflected on the purity of the amiable Julia, his very heart would die within him at the base idea of contaminating it. When he remembered the unsuspecting innocence of her happy family, he shuddered at the idea of the deception he was about to practise for their misery; often, when he recollected the friendship they had manifested towards him, and that which he in return had so frequently vowed, he started with affright at a view of the detestable baseness of his premeditated ingratitude: the recurrence of these ideas became indeed less and less frequent, and

and they were generally, in the end, repulsed by the aid of those notable arguments he had been so well taught by his tutor Diphthong to adopt. Such contentions, however, do never remarkably contribute to the repose of that mind in which they are maintained; and they are so inseparable from guilt, that we believe no one who hath ever conspired against the honor or happiness of another, hath passed many hours free from the disturbance they occasion. They are indeed to be considered as much the inevitable consequence of vice, as peace, evenness and fortitude of mind, are of a cherished and conscious virtue. In the course of two or three days, our hero was permitted to see company in his apartment, and Frederick was among the first of his visitors. After the first congratulations on Bennet's fortunate escape with his life were over, and Frederick had taken his seat by the bed side, he thus began.

“ My dear Henry, I cannot help gently
“ reproaching you, for hiding from me
“ the name of my benefactor in the af-
“ fair of my lieutenancy; why, my good
“ friend, were you so anxious to con-
“ ceal it? I assure you I should not have
“ gone happily from England, without
“ thanking my generous friend, and
“ yet

“ yet you would have permitted this; you
“ would outdo every body else in gene-
“ rosity; but it will not be, my friend,
“ your endeavours have been in vain,
“ and I am only sorry so unfortunate an
“ accident accompanied the discovery I
“ have made of the man to whom I owe
“ so much.” He was proceeding, when
Henry, with great affected surprise, in-
terrupted him. “ What do you mean,
“ my dear Frederick?” said he, “ what
“ do you mean? Lieutenancy! you
“ surprise me — but do not jest, you
“ know my inclination to serve you,
“ you know the interest I take in all
“ that concerns you, and I must needs
“ say, this is a little unkind; no trouble
“ should have hindered me from procur-
“ ing you a home regiment had it been
“ in my power.” For Frederick had
some little time before requested his in-
terest to procure him such a one. “ To
“ serve a friend is not only a duty, but
“ a pleasure; but oh! how much grea-
“ ter is that pleasure made, when by
“ our endeavours, not only the neces-
“ sities of a friend are obviated, but his
“ wishes are gratified; that, my friend,
“ is indeed a pleasure!” “ Then that
“ pleasure must be your’s,” said Fréde-
“ rick. “ Mine!” returned our hero,
still affecting a countenance of sur-
prise.

prise. "It won't do, Harry," cried Frederick, "it won't do, upon my soul "it won't—you are, you must be the "man to whom I am so highly obliged. "Can you deny that you sent me this "letter by a man from Stamford? When "you was carried in, after that cursed "fall, and had the blood wiped from "your face, the man who helped to "carry you to your apartment started "back with surprise at seeing you, and "declared it was you who had given "him the letter." "Well," said our hero, "I see it does not signify any longer denying it, I did write this letter; "but I hate ostentation. Beside, from "the great regard I have for you, my "dear Frederick, I am not satisfied with "what I have done — you wanted a "home regiment — that was not in "my power, and I love to serve my "friends rather in their way, than in "my own. I am therefore not a little "chagrined." "My dear, dear friend," interrupted Frederick, "talk not thus, "I am infinitely obliged, and shall "hasten to town to profit by your "friendship." "However," continued our hero, "Colonel Atkins has promised me that you shall be secretary "and aid du camp to General——, "the commander in chief of the island "to

" to which your regiment is going,
" which he says you will find worth
" your acceptance.—" No more thanks,
" I beseech you," for Frederick was pro-
ceeding to further expressions of grati-
tude; " you have already said too
" much upon it." The grateful Frede-
rick would not, however, be any longer
restrained; he embraced our hero,
swore he should ever consider him as
his dearest friend, and that he was
doubly happy in his good fortune, in
as much as it was owing to so noble,
so generous a benefactor. Under all
this our hero was by no means easy,
much less did he taste of that pleasure
resulting from the performance of a
truly benevolent action; a sense of the
latent villainy of his intentions rose up
against him, and he intreated Frederick
to desist from any further mention of
the matter. The generous, grateful
youth, who knew not that every word
of thanks he uttered was a dagger in the
breast of the guilty Bennet, would not
be deterred from again embracing his
friend, and bedewing his cheek with
tears. This our hero was obliged to
sustain; but in the bitterness of his spi-
rit, he inwardly cursed the occasion,
his friend, himself, and Julia, alto-
gether. " Indeed with so ill a grace did he
receive

receive this last testimony of Frederick's gratitude, that that young gentleman feared he had by his warmth offended him. "My dear Henry," said he, "be not offended that the honest impulses of my gratitude, have carried me so far." — "Alas!" said our hero, (who never required more than a moment to recollect himself) catching hold of Frederick's hand and pressing it to his bosom, "how unkindly you mis-
"take me; I surely did not appear offended — but, in truth, I can hardly
"answer for myself; I am most unhappy, and you well know to what
"account to place it — Your amiable
"sister is the cause, and the despair of
"ever possessing that charming creature,
"in spite of all my resolutions to the
"contrary, absolutely drives me mad."

Frederick essayed to administer to his friend all the consolation in his power; this indeed appeared to be very little, and our hero refused comfort. "Was
"I" said he, "but possessed of the means
"of supporting your sister as she deserves, not all the fears I could entertain of my father's displeasure
"should restrain me from acknowledging my love for her; but, as I have told you, for every shilling I expect,
"I am wholly dependent upon him.

He

“ He is very rich, but I well know if
“ I were to marry your sister without
“ his consent or knowledge, he would
“ never be brought to endure me ; the
“ only hope I have, is one it distresses
“ me to entertain ; since if ever I have
“ the happiness of calling Julia mine,
“ I must be indebted for it to the loss
“ of a man, who, in every other in-
“ stance, hath ever shewn himself to be
“ a most tender and indulgent parent.”

To this, Frederick, as he could say very little to the purpose, answered nothing—and the two gentlemen remained for some minutes together in a profound silence, which in all probability would have lasted longer than it did, had not the elder Johnson entered the room, and by his presence relieved them from their anxiety. After congratulating our hero on his improved look, he proceeded to thank him for his friendship towards his son. As these thanks were delivered in a style of somewhat less warmth than those of Frederick, our hero made a shift to receive them without any visible emotion, and in truth his conscience was much quieter under this second assault, than it had been under the first.

There now followed between the patient and his visitors a long conversation upon the subject of Frederick's departure

parture to town ; his regiment, the army, the war, which were all thoroughly discussed ; but as the particulars of this conversation were of no material import, we have not judged it necessary to present them to the reader. After all these matters were fully settled, the gentlemen left our hero to his repose.

In the mean time Julia, who grew every day more and more in love with Henry, was oppressed with a thousand little anxious thoughts, which are happily unknown to those persons who are in possession of too large a portion of wisdom ever to fall in love. If she regarded him before, now that she had discovered her brother's friend, who had so generously strove too to hide himself from their gratitude, she absolutely doated on him, and the idea of his departure filled her gentle bosom with the greatest anguish. — She had not seen London since she was very young, and she entertained the most terrible ideas of the dissipation and depravity of that part of its inhabitants with whom her Bennet would probably be connected. “ It is not his absence,” she would sometimes say to herself, “ that I so much re-“ gret,” (in which, by the bye, she made, unknown to herself, a small mis-
take)

take) " the treachery, the inconstancy
" he will learn, the numberless temp-
" tations he will meet with, to desert
" his poor Julia, these I fear—immer-
" sed in the gaieties of London, and
" surrounded with splendid beauties,
" he will be captivated with their
" charms, and I shall be forgotten." One circumstance too, that added not a little to her anxiety was that she had not seen him since his illness ; her modesty forbade the thought of visiting a young gentleman in his chamber alone, and uninvited. Frederick was the only person to whom she could dare to own her inclinations, and he, probably, influenced by prudential motives, or the desires of the old people, or both, had never hinted to her such a visit. This little absence, the object of her love so near, and the contemplation of his goodness, his agreeable manners, his charming person, the pain and illness he had so recently endured, and above all at this juncture, his friendship towards her brother, with all those anxieties we just now adverted to, combined altogether to make our poor heroine as miserable as any modern reader of modern novels could possibly desire to find her.

The

The uneasiness which thus preyed upon her mind, Julia, who was at best ill calculated to play the hypocrite, could by no means well conceal, nor did it pass unobserved by her careful mother, who was resolved to know if possible the state of her daughter's heart, and to interpose for her peace and safety, such advice, as she thought her superior age and experience gave her a just and undoubted right to apply.

But before we proceed any further we must not omit to mention one circumstance. Julia never failed to walk by the door of our hero's chamber, when she thought herself unobserved, at least a dozen times a day. From this exercise she no doubt derived the highest satisfaction, and if it did not tend to diminish the influence of that passion which had already so great a predominancy in her bosom, it at least served to give a temporary relief to the anguish she endured. This, however, is a kind of medicine, which rather partakes of the nature of quackery, than of that of the more regulated art, and, like the former, appears at first to cure the wound, which in fact it only disturbs and irritates. We should not have recorded this circumstance, but that it evidences how deeply our heroine was enamoured, and

and how greatly this passion will usurp uncontrollable dominion, for a time, over the best disposed and regulated mind.

In one of these little excursions (if we may be allowed so to call several turns up and down the passage) Julia was one day surprised by her mother: the old gentlewoman stood at one end of the passage, by the stair-case, and had observed her daughter walking several times to and fro, in deep meditation, before that young lady discovered her; this, however, at last she did, and followed her mother reluctantly to her apartment, in which the good woman desired her attendance; whither they were no sooner arrived, than Mrs. Johnson, with much mildness in her aspect, and in the tenderest manner, thus addressed our heroine:

“ You must be convinced, my dear girl, of my love towards you: this, I think, my conduct from your birth till now has pretty well manifested, and you cannot, therefore, wonder that I am greatly concerned at observing a very considerable change of late in your countenance and behaviour—from being gay, lively and cheerful, you are become dull and pensive—nor is it I alone who have observed

“ observed this, your father, to whom,
“ as to myself, you are equally dear,
“ hath more than once or twice, with
“ much concern, mentioned it to me,
“ and desired me to ask you if any thing
“ hath happened to make you uneasy :
“ he did not, it is true, appear to sus-
“ pect *that* to be the cause, which I
“ own to you I myself imagine. You
“ know, dear Julia, that I have seve-
“ ral times given you pretty open hints
“ of my suspicions ; these you have
“ always somehow or other evaded, and
“ I have been loth to speak more open-
“ ly upon the subject, as I was every
“ day in strong hope to see you re-
“ trieve yourself again, and because
“ such discussions are never pleasant at
“ any time ; but now, that I see this
“ gloom continue, I can no longer
“ conceal from you my anxiety to be
“ acquainted fully with the cause ; this,
“ my child, I entreat, I conjure you,
“ by all the tenderness, as well as au-
“ thority of a mother who loves you,
“ honestly to communicate to me : I
“ can admit of no reserves, and you
“ will not surely hesitate to open your
“ heart freely to your mother.”

The old lady here paused, and looked at Julia for an answer, but it did not appear probable she would presently obtain

obtain one, as the poor young lady had not in fact any to make. After some little time, finding that Julia opened not her mouth, or at least had essayed to open it in vain, Mrs. Johnson proceeded—" Since, child, you do not think fit to disclose to me what I suspect to be the cause of the change I have mentioned, I will discharge what I conceive to be my duty in this matter. I must tell you, then, that from what I have remarked in your behaviour, I am inclined to think, that this cause, which you are so desirous to conceal, is no other than a secret love for Captain Bennet." Our heroine here endeavoured to speak, but with so much confusion, and so little coherence, that Mrs. Johnson proceeded—" The manner in which you would attempt to do away my suspicions, does but the more convince me they are well founded, and I shall therefore proceed to give you my advice how you ought to conduct yourself, in an affair that may have no trifling influence upon your future peace: the passion which I am firmly persuaded you entertain for this young gentleman, I do not blame in itself, he is most worthy, and well, I am sure, deserves

“ deserves the regard and good wishes
“ of us all; these indeed he possesses,
“ and, therefore, it is not so much the
“ affection, as the impropriety and
“ folly of it, under present circum-
“ stances, that merit discouragement.
“ The Captain, you are to remember,
“ is a young man who has the pro-
“ spect of a vast fortune before him, and
“ cannot therefore be reasonably ex-
“ pected to prefer a woman, who, like
“ yourself, has nothing to expect:
“ beside, were he in himself never so
“ much inclined to prefer the fulfil-
“ ment of his love, to other considera-
“ tions, his father, upon whose will I
“ find his fortune entirely depends, is
“ a worldly man, and would never
“ pardon such a preference in his son.
“ Again, he is just now going to Lon-
“ don, to mix with persons, whose
“ manners and examples are by no
“ means calculated to improve the mind
“ of a young man, liable to every un-
“ favourable impression, in the love of
“ disinterestedness and virtue. No, my
“ dear, do not thus deceive yourself,
“ do not cherish in your breast a pas-
“ sion which never can be gratified,
“ and which, if not restrained and
“ overcome in time, will, take my
“ word for it, prove fatal to your hap-
“ piness.

“ pines. Do not, by wilfully mis-
“ taking me, think I would detract
“ from the merit of Captain Bennet,
“ you know how highly he stands in
“ my esteem; but I must be sincere
“ and plain with you, I have seen some
“ years over my head, I have acquired
“ some experience in the course of my
“ life, and remember, I advise you,
“ if ever Captain Bennet should profess
“ to despise, for your sake, the fortune,
“ which his alliance with you would
“ inevitably deprive him of, that you
“ do not listen to him; depend upon
“ it, the day would come when he
“ would lament the pleasures he had
“ lost, when your society would lose
“ its charms for him; when he would
“ be led to consider you as the cause of
“ that loss, when that consideration
“ would naturally lead him to hate
“ and detest, with as much violence,
“ as, under the present idea, we may
“ now suppose he loves you: but indeed,
“ my Julia, it does not appear that he
“ has any such love; if, therefore, you
“ flatter yourself with future happi-
“ ness, from the encouragement of this
“ passion, depend upon it you will, in
“ the end, find yourself most miserably
“ mistaken. One word more, and I
“ will leave you to reflect upon what

“ I have said to you ; recollect, my
“ dear Julia, that this advice is not
“ mine alone, it comes from your fa-
“ ther as well as from me—your hap-
“ piness is very dear to him, and he
“ has bid me tell you it is his firm
“ and sincere advice, nay more (I am
“ loth to say the harsh word) his com-
“ mand, that you do make it your
“ endeavour to give Captain Bennet
“ that place alone in your heart,
“ which is due to the friend of your
“ brother.”

Having said this she embraced our heroine, and hastily left her, bathed in tears, which indeed she had plentifully shed during great part of this long discourse ; it was in vain the poor girl begged her mother to stay ; she seemed afraid the tears of Julia might lead her to alter a determination she deemed necessary to the future good of a daughter, whom both she and Mr. Johnson tenderly loved.

This worthy couple had indeed the best hearts in the world, but both of them possessed that common, and sometimes unhappy failing, a most inflexible adherence to a determination they had once formed ; in alleviation, however, we must do them the justice to observe, that although they were, like many others,

others, sometimes mistaken, they did not often form any determination, without first revolving the propriety or necessity of it in their minds.

C H A P. IX.

More conversation.

OUR poor heroine was so greatly disconcerted by what she had just heard, that although she entreated her mother not to leave her, it is most probable, had that good lady staid, it would have been to very little purpose, save the further discovering her daughter's confusion and perplexity.

After the forlorn Julia had given way for some time to her tears, and indulged the grief by which she was depressed, she was determined to go and throw herself at the feet of her parents, and confess her weakness.—“ Yet why confess a weakness they are already so well acquainted with,” said she, “ and which they advise, nay command me to conquer? But ah! they do not know, they do not feel like me!

L 2

They

" They would have me suppose my
" Bennet would desert me—I cannot,
" must not, harbour an idea so dis-
" honourable to that dear, that gene-
" rous youth. But they know not half
" his truth—they surely are ignorant
" of his virtues." After some further
conference of this sort, she concluded,
not immediately to go to her father,
but rather to calm her troubled spirits,
by a walk in the garden, to which the
remarkable fineness of the evening
greatly invited her.

At the end of the garden farthest
from the house, was a little walk, over-
shadowed by some high trees, to which
Julia greatly delighted to retire, and at
one end of it was an arbour, covered
with honeysuckle; in this arbour she
had deposited a few choice books, and
would frequently, in the summer time,
indulge a great propensity to reading,
for hours together, either alone, with
Frederick, or sometimes with one or
two of those few female companions
with whom she was in habits of inti-
macy. To this favorite arbour she
now withdrew, in order the more freely
to indulge the train of melancholy
ideas, which the preceding conver-
sation with her mother had inspired.
" What can I do?" said she, as she
entered

entered the arbour. " How can I
 " subdue the affection I feel for this
 " charming youth? Has he not told
 " me he loves me? but ought I to
 " have permitted that? Ought I to have
 " listened to such professions? Ought I
 " to have suffered my heart to be thus
 " captivated, without almost any re-
 " sistance? Surely I have been wrong!
 " I should have advised with those who
 " know so much better than myself,
 " upon a matter of such importance;
 " this would have saved me from the
 " perplexity to which I am reduced—
 " This would have—But ah! is he not
 " of a noble, open, disinterested spirit?
 " Has he not sworn eternal love to me?
 " But my mother says the time may
 " come when he will forget his vows—
 " when he may be drawn aside by the
 " temptations which will surround him
 " in London—nay, when the conse-
 " quences of his father's displeasure may
 " make him hate me—may lead him to
 " curse the hour in which he first be-
 " held me.—Wretched, cruel thought!
 " Yet may it not be true?—Oh heavens,
 " it may! and to what frightful misery
 " would that reduce me—what wretch-
 " edness would then be my lot!"—In
 consequence of this second view of
 things, and of a very serious reflection

on the variety and strength of the inducements our hero would have, should they ever be united, to lament his union with her, Julia, not without many struggles and remonstrances of her love, determined, let her own misery be ever so great, to go immediately to her parents, open the whole affair without reserve, and make a formal sacrifice of her affection for Bennet to their desires —nor did she derive a trifling aid towards this resolution, from the idea of the amiable light in which she should appear to her parents, and of the pleasure she might hereafter derive from a resignation now so painful.

To this end, having composed her countenance into a tolerable degree of serenity, and armed her mind with all the resolution and fortitude of which she was mistress, she sallied out of the arbour with the utmost expedition, highly exulting in the greatness of the sacrifice she was about to make; and had actually proceeded within twenty or thirty yards of the house, when an accident happened which produced a total overthrow of these good resolutions.

This,

This, gentle reader, was no other than the appearance of our hero—an accident wholly unexpected by Julia, as he had never yet been down stairs since his fall, and was not expected to leave his room for a day or two, nay, he had received positive orders from his doctor to this effect; that gentleman averring that such a step would probably be attended with fatal consequences.

But our hero, having observed Julia from his window which looked into the garden, walking alone towards her favourite spot, determined that nothing should prevent his presently following her, and enjoying the pleasure of conversing with this charming creature, a pleasure from which his unlucky indisposition had for several days debarred him; this, however, he delayed to do, as he knew her stay in the arbour was generally pretty long, 'till he had finished a letter he was to send off that very evening for London, to Colonel Atkins, upon the business of Frederick's Lieutenancy; in which, this being Thursday, he had named the Monday following for that young gentleman's arrival in town, and this delay, added to that which was occasioned by a little necessary adjustment of his

dress, had nearly overturned, in all likelihood, his present schemes with regard to Julia.

Luckily for Bennet, he met her in time to prevent so sad a catastrophe—he approached our heroine with a respectful bow, and without uttering a word, took her hand and pressed it to his lips, with an ardor which bespoke the warmest love, yet with a gentleness, that shewed the highest respect.

It may possibly happen, that a man, without the least intention or consciousness of guilt, nay even perhaps when he is meditating some superior act of duty, may, through a strange combination of circumstances, be involved in all the confusion, or something very like it, which can disturb the bosom of a guilty person—of the truth of this, if the reader be inclined to doubt, we will present him an instance in the fair heroine of this history, who, when going to make the highest sacrifice to filial duty that parental authority can require, felt herself, at the moment of that gentle pressure of her hand above commemorated, upbraided from within, with cruelty and injustice to our hero.

Every

Every thing indeed now conspired to stagger her in the resolution she had just formed, and to heighten her love ; the unexpected presence of a man she almost adored, his recent absence, the occasion of that absence, the illness he had suffered, these, I say, or rather at least the recollection of them, together with the tenderness of his address, and the effect of this not a little heightened by that delicacy in his countenance, the natural result of indisposition and confinement, produced certain sensations in her gentle bosom, the very reverse of those which had occupied it but the moment before.

In short, this was one of those critical moments, which determine for us much future happiness or misery—what degree of either, the decision of the present moment produced to our heroine, is yet to be discovered.

It was perhaps lucky for our hero, that he did not know, how much upon a very pin's point the success or demolition of his schemes depended ; this he did not know, and therefore, without any other emotions than what might appear natural at such a time, after he had held her hand for near a minute in silence, addressed her as follows.

“ Words are wanting, my lovely Julia,

“ to

“ to express my joy at seeing you again,
“ nor are they less incapable to de-
“ scribe to you the impatience with
“ which I have waited for this happy
“ hour.—Every one of these few days
“ hath appeared an age to my aching
“ imagination, every hour a burthen,
“ till I saw you—why, my Julia, have
“ I not seen you? why have you not
“ condescended—but why do I pre-
“ sume to reproach you? I will not, I
“ dare not! doubtless you had suffi-
“ cient reasons for not so far honouring
“ me.”—He here paused.—She would
have answered, but he accompanied
this gentle remonstrance with a look,
so tenderly affectionate, that it smote
her to the heart, and the poor, de-
luded fair one appeared in her own
eyes as little less than a monster.—
“ But come, my angel,” pursued our
wary hero, “ let us not lose these pre-
“ cious moments; favour me only with
“ a few turns in the little walk; the
“ evening is beautiful, and I trust you
“ will not hereafter repent your con-
“ descension.” So saying, he drew the
faintly resisting Julia back to the ar-
bour.

By the time they had arrived thither,
Julia had somewhat recovered herself,
and

and began in her turn to speak, by asking the captain, for indeed such we ought now to call him, how he found himself—expressing her fears that his health might be injured by his venturing out.—“ And can my Julia think so much for her Bennet? does she descend to think his health and welfare of any importance?” “ If I did not,” said she, “ I should certainly be a very unworthy creature. I hope I shall never shew myself indifferent to the welfare of one who hath shewn so much friendship to a brother I most tenderly and sincerely love.”—This was the very string he wished her to touch. “ Oh, do not mention that,” said he, “ I esteem and respect your brother most highly, and sorry I am my power hath been so small to serve him; but it is not for his sake alone, I would have you honor me with a place in your thoughts. I love you passionately! I adore you! do not then return me that cold esteem alone, which is due only to your brother’s friend—I would I could paint to you the horror I felt, when I recovered my senses, after I had been thrown from my horse, at the bare idea of the narrow escape I had for my life, at the recollection of the horrid

“ horrid risque I had run of being far
“ ever separated from all I hold most
“ dear in you! to have died thus,
“ without one look, one sigh, one tear
“ from my Julia—to have been, in one
“ cruel moment, torn from every hope
“ of being beloved by the most amiable
“ of women—thus to have closed my
“ eyes in a long endless night! Oh,
“ Julia!”—Julia could bear this no longer, the tears trickled down her cheeks,
—“ Oh, forbear, forbear!” she cried
“ I love you! and fainted in his
“ arms.”

After some time, and many endeavours on the part of our hero, Julia recovered from the fit into which she had fallen. Bennet then fell upon his knees, and taking her hands—“ Can
“ you pardon me? good God! I am
“ the most unfortunate man in the
“ world, thus to distress one for whose
“ happiness I would sacrifice the uni-
“ verse—Look upon me, dear Julia,
“ look upon one who adores you! you
“ must, you shall be mine!”—“ Oh
“ Captain Bennet!” said Julia, “ after
“ what has passed—but what am I
“ saying? lead me in, or rather permit
“ me to go by myself, another glass of
“ water, and I shall be better; you see
“ my

“ my weakness—Oh good heavens !
“ too much you see it.”—“ Call it not
“ weakness,” said the captain, “ such
“ sensibility, such tenderness do not
“ deserve that name; you are all con-
“ descending goodness, dearest crea-
“ ture, and I will ever remember
“ it. Would to God I had but the
“ means of shewing you how much,
“ how greatly I admire it ! but as
“ yet our mutual attachment must be
“ a secret—Let me intreat you do not
“ mention it to your parents—it must
“ then come to my father, and I should
“ be utterly undone—Beggary must
“ in such a case inevitably be our
“ portion, and could I introduce my
“ Julia to beggary ? Her, whose vir-
“ tues deserve an empire ? no, by
“ heavens ! I would meet perdition
“ first.” Here he paused near a mi-
“ nute—and seemed lost in thought—
at length he cried out, “ I have it ! I
“ have a scheme, my Julia, which
“ will reconcile every thing ; it is yet
“ in embryo—I will digest it, and
“ take an early opportunity of com-
“ municating it to you—Oh, to be
“ united to such perfection, will in-
“ deed be a happiness of which I am
“ unworthy.”—Julia’s countenance be-
gan

gan involuntarily to brighten; she looked as if anxious to know, though an instant blush confessed her fears to enquire concerning this scheme, at which Bennet had hinted. This the crafty captain perceived, and with numberless assurances of everlasting love, vowed he could no longer exist without her. They then pledged mutual affection, and mutual silence, and some moments of that bliss, which is known but to few of my readers, appeared very amply to compensate them for those of a contrary sort which they had suffered.

They now walked towards the house, at which they presently arrived — Julia, whose heart indeed was far from being perfectly easy, composed her countenance as well as possible, and entered the parlor, while the captain ascended to his chamber, highly exulting in his success, and determined to lose no time in prosecuting his project. He had fixed on Monday with Johnson and his son for the departure of the latter, and by that means had the prospect of removing one out of the way, who might perhaps in the end, at once discover and defeat

defeat his intended views upon the unsuspecting Júlia.

Thus far, good reader, having brought thee, we shall here close the fourth book of this our history.

END OF THE FOURTH BOOK.

BOOK

BOOK THE FIFTH.

C H A P. I.

Of those who are properly qualified to applaud or condemn this work.

IT is one of the most valuable privileges of an Englishman, that he cannot legally be deprived, either of his life, liberty, or estate, but by the verdict of his peers; but this privilege, we fear, would be frequently found to avail very little, were those grave personages, who so honourably fill the seats of justice, less wise, learned, or upright than they are; an ignorant, partial, or unjust judge, would, in nine cases out of ten, defeat the purposes of any twelve men, were they even possessed of much greater wisdom and knowledge than have generally fallen to the lot of modern jurymen.

In

In like manner, when the work of a poor author is handed up to the tremendous bar of public judgment, it is a thousand to one, whatever its excellencies may be, if the malicious whispers of some one evil minded fellow do not prove so mischievous to the welfare of that work, as effectually to overthrow all the benefit it would derive from the friendly decision of a dozen candid and judicious persons. And as, to carry the metaphor a little further, it hath sometimes heretofore been found, that from the partiality of the judge, the ignorance or inattention of the jury, or from some other cause, neither the character or innocence of the criminal hath been able to secure him from condemnation; so is it much oftener found, that all the wit, the invention and the labour, which the unlucky author hath bestowed upon his work, are inadequate to save it from the merciless fangs of ignorance or ill nature.

It was once not unaptly indeed observed, that if a man were particularly ambitious to be esteemed among critics of every denomination, for the strength of his judgment, he had nothing else to do but censure without mercy every thing which came within his observation. This is a lesson which most modern

dern judges of literature, seem to have bestowed great pains in learning, and, to do them the justice they deserve, they have arrived at the highest degree of proficiency in this art; although by some unlucky failure, either in their education or ingenuity, they have not been able to learn, or more properly speaking, are most miserably ignorant of every other.

Seeing this is the case, and that *that* may be sometimes most truly said of an author, which was once said of a very good man, his friends are so ashamed to own him, that they will not do it till some of his enemies have first become his defenders; we think it most necessary, out of that respect which we owe to our own dignity, as an author, to make use of that privilege we possess as a man, namely to disown the jurisdiction of certain persons who will no doubt presume to take upon them the office of judges, or rather of executioners of this our work.

First of all then, we solemnly disclaim the authority of all such who have never perused the works of that great man, in whose steps we have in some measure proposed to tread, and of those who having perused them, have neither

neither relished his wit, or admired his manner of writing, since neither of these can have any fair pretensions to the spirit of criticism in this instance.

Secondly, We must pronounce those persons incapable of judging the merit of any work like the present, who have not taken sufficient pains to observe or distinguish a few at least of the more refined and latent movements of the heart; such superficial characters know not what to expect; ignorant of human nature, they will not scruple to pronounce those of her works monstrous and deformed, which do not come within the very narrow limits of their own understandings.

Thirdly, We must except as our judges, those ladies and gentlemen, whose imaginations are so enlarged, that nothing less than giants, and enchanted castles, and the slayers of those giants, and the overthowers of their castles, will gratify their hungry curiosity; to attempt to satisfy these, with plain and simple nature, would be no less absurd, than to bid some avaricious, cruel creditor, be contented with the promises of his debtor, or to desire such a man as Henry Bennet to desist from the gratification

gratification of his desires, because by such a restraint, he might hope for the rewards of a good and virtuous mind.

Fourthly, There is a set of people, who may as properly be said to dream over a book as any persons whatever, and they are those redoubted sons of learning, who employ exactly that time and no more, in putting the inside of their heads to rights, which the barber usually takes to trim the outside; and happy would it perhaps be, if both these operations were attended with equal success, but alas! too often doth it happen, that, through the care of the aforesaid barber, we behold the exterior of that head beautifully decorated, the interior parts of which unhappily remain involved in their pristine confusion.

Fifthly, We strictly exclude and absolutely forbid from passing any sentence upon this work, those sagacious persons, who, either because they think themselves sufficiently wise already, or are too idly inclined, read by proxy, and of these there are two sorts, viz. One, the individuals of which, do really peruse some few pages of a book now and then, but who are beforehand determined to applaud or condemn, as they find it the fashion. The other is formed

formed of those, who, literally speaking, never read at all. Of the former of these we must observe, their understandings, if they have any, are too much influenced by the opinions of others; of the latter we shall make no further mention, unless it be to say, they are almost too contemptible to deserve any notice.

But not to proceed any further in this list, for it is in truth no agreeable task to detect the follies and weaknesses of those around us, we shall only observe, that there are numberless similar characters which we could particularise, who, without possessing one single requisite of a critical reader, will not scruple to pronounce a positive judgment upon every work which comes either under their hands or hearing, and seldom does it happen, that that judgment is a merciful one. If, therefore, it be a grating reflection to a sensible author that his work is liable to the malevolence of misrepresentation, and the undistinguishing censures of folly, let him remember, for his comfort, that it is inseparable from folly to censure that which deserves praise, and that he ought not to wish for a more explicit and honorable testimonial of the merit of his work to the estimation

tion of the judicious, than the aspersions of the ignorant, and the detractions of the envious—He may say with honest Phædrus,

*Si livor obtrectare voluerit,
Non tamen excipiet laudis conscientiam.*

But though we thus utterly disallow the jurisdiction of the persons we have mentioned, in these matters, and though we do not permit them to censure our work, or to call the various parts of it which they do not either relish or comprehend, unnatural and absurd; yet let it by no means be thought that we do this, either from the fear or hatred of just criticism; on the contrary, we voluntarily offer our work to the ordeal, and we profess ourselves ready to stand or fall by the judgment of those, who, from their knowledge and sagacity, may be called critics, without any affront either to the meaning of words or to common sense.

To compose this character, we conceive that knowledge, speaking generally, though absolutely and essentially necessary, is not the only requisite ingredient—To this must be added candour and good nature; the one, to render us in our researches willing to find beau-

beauties as well as imperfections ; and the other, to teach us to allow for certain of those imperfections, from which it is hardly possible any work of humanity should be free.

To the judgment then of the candid, good-natured, sensible reader, we cheerfully commit these our labours ; well assured, that such judgment will be neither influenced by the opinions, or perverted by the misrepresentations of the uncharitable ; the censures of a thousand of whom, would weigh very lightly indeed in our estimation, against the simple commendation of one well informed and sagacious reader.

C H A P. II.

In which the history proceeds.

THE next day, our hero, in spite of all the wishes and admonitions of his doctor to the contrary, relinquished his chamber ; a little tenderness on his arm and head alone remained : the hurt he had received in his fall was exceedingly magnified by this ingenious son of

of Æsculapius, the wounds were perfectly healed, in spite of certain corrosive applications, and nobody would have conceived that he had any further occasion for the doctor, but the doctor himself.

Although Henry was, on his return to the parlor, most welcomely received, yet were the old people somewhat more reserved towards him than before; the degree of this, was indeed so light, that by a superficial observer it would not perhaps have been perceived; but our hero was possessed of too much sagacity to let it pass unnoticed; it did not, however, occasion any change in his behaviour, and so insinuating were his manners, and so agreeable the ease and pleasantry of his conversation, that these honest people, in less than half an hour, seemed to have forgotten their little reserve; the rest of the day was passed in the utmost cheerfulness and good humour, and in the evening the Captain returned to his father.

Titus Bennet had for some time past been disabled from going out by the debilitated state of his health, and not having seen his son, whom in reality he now greatly loved, since the accident we have recorded, received him with great delight; nor was Bennet by any means

means deficient in expressions of joy on this meeting. Much therefore passed between this father and son, with the particulars of which we would most willingly indulge the reader, did we conceive they would conduce to his edification. Nothing worthy of remark happened between this time and Monday, which it may be remembered was the day on which Frederick was to take his departure—that day at length arrived, and the reader will be pleased to accompany us and our hero, who was by that time quite recovered, to the house of Mr. Johnson, in order to take leave of the young gentleman.

Poor Julia, whose heart was very far from being at ease on other accounts, was dreadfully uneasy at the idea of parting with her Frederick; she loved her parents with an affection most pure and tender, she regarded them as the authors of her being, and considered them as intitled, both from motives of duty and gratitude, to every attention and kindness from her;—but her love to Frederick was of a somewhat different kind.—Between parents and children nature hath placed a distance, which, in general, prevents a free and unbounded communication; in a fraternal connexion, this distance, as it doth

not exist, so is it not felt, and the love between a brother and sister, hath in its very nature, therefore, to promote a mutual confidence.

This confidence had long subsisted between Julia and her brother, and it was with him she could repose every infant thought, every latent weakness, with a full security of assistance and advice. It cannot, therefore, be wonderful, that her gentle bosom should be oppressed with grief, at the idea of losing so kind a brother, and so affectionate a friend.

This day was, therefore, to her, a day of much sorrow, and the reader who is happy enough to know what the sensations of affection mean, will, doubtless, sympathize with her. Her mother was very little better than herself, and, therefore, notwithstanding the studied heroism of Frederick, the affected jocularity of her father, and the company of our hero, which indeed became more and more delightful to her, a general uneasiness overshadowed her mind, and it was but once through the day, that a half reluctant smile glimmered through the gloom. — In short, as the hour of the youth's departure approached, an irresistible pensiveness stole by degrees over the minds and

and faces of this little, cheerful, happy family,—and the countenance of the Captain bore them company.

But, as it hath been found on those solemn occasions of hanging and marrying, and on many others equally important, that all the grief of the victims, and their surrounding friends, will not avail to put off the destined hour of sacrifice; or, that at best, it will only furnish them with a few more moments of sorrow, and that, in spite of every studied delay, that hour will at last arrive, so was it found upon the present. The postchaise had some time since disturbed the silence which reigned among the company, by its arrival at the gate;—Julia had been up stairs several times to fetch some little things for her brother, which she had forgotten; Mr. Johnson recollects a short letter he wished to write to a friend in town, and Frederick himself had put on a pair of boots he did not like, and had again changed them; but, in spite of all, the moment of departure could be no further prolonged, and our hero brought the whole to a conclusion, by speaking as follows:—“ The man who “ doth not feel a reluctance at parting “ with a much esteemed friend, must “ certainly be a stranger to the best

“ emotions of the soul.—I believe I do
“ not feel much less than yourself, Ma-
“ dam,” addressing Mrs. Johnson,
“ upon this occasion; such is the re-
“ gard in which I hold my friend; but
“ let us not, by a weak distress, un-
“ hinge his mind, or ruffle his spirits,
“ at this time.—I would advert, for a
“ moment, to the great advantage he
“ himself may gain by a temporary
“ absence, but of this I can say the
“ less, as I am in some measure the in-
“ strument of his departure.” This
brought on a renewal of thanks to the
Captain for his friendship, which he
stopped as soon as he conveniently
could, saying, “ Heaven forbid, my
“ good friends, I should arrogate to
“ myself any merit on such an account;
“ to serve a friend is neither more or
“ less than a positive duty to every man,
“ who hath it in his power, and he
“ who doth not find a sufficient reward
“ in the satisfaction of his own breast,
“ must be incapable of any approaches
“ towards pure and sublime friendship.
“ I beg, therefore, no more may be
“ said upon this subject.”—His auditors
again united in his praises, and their
grief for the departure of Frederick
was, for a moment, lost in their admira-
tion of such truly generous sentiments.

Julia,

Julia, might she have followed the first impulses of affection, would have flown into his arms. "But come, my dear "Frederick," cried Bennet, taking hold of his hand, and affecting an air of forced jocularity, "you must be off; it "will presently be growing late, and you "will not reach Biggleswade before "dark," at which place Frederick proposed to sleep. "I will accompany you "as far as Peterborough, where I have "ordered Barnard to meet me with my "horse for my return at eight.—Come, "Captain, you will return, no doubt, "loaded with laurels.—I will not let "you delay another moment."—The reluctant Frederick embraced his parents and sister most tenderly, and hastened with the utmost expedition into the chaise; Henry followed him, and in a moment they were out of sight.

As the scene, if it was dull before, must be now much more so, we will for a little while, in compliance with the approved modern custom, leave these poor people to comfort one another as much as they are able, and attend the travellers to Peterborough.

A silence of some minutes after they had mounted the carriage, was at last broke by Frederick, who began thus:—"You know, my dear Harry, I wished

“ for a home regiment, and you also
“ know my motives; but there is one
“ of them in particular, which I will
“ mention to you again, because it re-
“ ally hangs much upon my mind — I
“ am really loth to leave my sister be-
“ hind me — my father and mother are
“ both in a declining way; I do not,
“ in truth, expect that they will either
“ of them last long, and my sister will
“ in case of their death, be unprotected.”

“ — By heavens!” exclaimed our hero.

—“ Forgive my interrupting you,” said Frederick, “ I know what you would
“ say, but I cannot suffer the idea, that
“ your love for my sister should bring
“ down ruin upon yourself; when I said
“ she would be unprotected, I rather
“ meant to say, she would not have the
“ protection I should wish; — for, in
“ case of that event I have mentioned,
“ it has long been settled, that Julia is
“ to become an inmate in the house of
“ Lady Jane Richardson, who is a rela-
“ tion of my mother’s, and a widow,
“ of some fortune, who pretends to have
“ taken a great fancy to my sister, but
“ who is, in my apprehension, a very
“ unfit person to be trusted with the
“ care of a young woman, unexperien-
“ ced in the ways of the town; she is
“ of an amorous complexion, keeps
“ much

“ much company, and is so extravag-
“ ant, as to live, I am convinced, to
“ the very extent of her fortune, if not
“ considerably above it. — Yet she is a
“ favourite of my father and mother
“ too; how the devil it comes about
“ I can't imagine, though she has, to
“ give her her due, sufficiently insinu-
“ ating manners, and indeed, when in the
“ country with us, which, by the bye,
“ she hath not been since we removed
“ into this part of it, appears quite anot-
“ her woman. To the guardianship,
“ then, of this lady, should any thing
“ happen to my father and mother,
“ must Julia be committed, not only as
“ she has often insisted upon, and ob-
“ tained; a promise from them to that
“ effect, but because it is the only eli-
“ gible, or rather apparently eligible
“ situation she could meet with, and
“ I protest to you, I tremble at the
“ very idea.” — “ My dear, dear fellow,”
said Bennet, “ let me make you easy;
“ while your parents live, Julia is safe,
“ you know; should any thing happen
“ to them before you return to Eng-
“ land, and she should go to Lady Jane's,
“ I promise you I will protect her from
“ the insidious attempts of a parcel of
“ confounded knaves, who are ever on
“ the hunt after the gratification of

" their vicious desires ; and, my dear
" Frederick, do me the justice to believe,
" that if I am now anxious to keep my
" affection for that dear, adorable crea-
" ture, a secret, it is not so much for
" fear of my own ruin, which, for her
" sake, I would despise, but because,
" by at present disclosing it, I should
" involve her, as well as myself, in in-
" evitable destruction. Yet be assured,
" that the moment I am by any means
" in possession of the power, I will not
" hesitate to make her mine.—Be easy,
" therefore, my dear Johnson, on this
" head. I shall be necessarily in town
" myself for some time, at least, and,
" let what will happen, I will take
" care your sister shall not be in any
" danger at Lady Jane's. — I have too
" dear an interest in her welfare, to
" permit it to be in the least iota injur-
" ed, while life and power to preserve
" it, are left me." — " Oh, my dear
" Bennet," returned Frederick, " you
" have greatly eased me ; for, upon my
" soul, the bare idea of evil happening
" to Julia, shocks me ; and if any villain
" were to fully, or attempt to fully her
" honor, by heaven I would not rest—
" his life, or mine, should be the im-
" mediate forfeit of the discovery.

Our

Our hero, as he had often done before, (for the fears which this affectionate brother entertained for his sister, and the violent love he bore her, had often occasioned such declarations) sung forth most highly in praise of so generous an affection. "Upon my honor, " my dear boy," said he, " thou art really the prince of brothers, and deservest the highest credit. — But who could see such loveliness attacked, and not stand up in its defence? by heaven! the man who can behold unmoved the fall of unsuspecting purity, or who can attack that purity himself, with the weapons of dishonorable baseness, must first have parted with all that belongs to the man, for the hellish soul of a monster of destruction." He uttered this sentiment with so much earnestness of voice and look, that Johnson seized his hand, and squeezing it with all the earnestness of confidence and friendship, swore he was the only man in the world fit to be the protector of his sister. "My dear Harry," said he, "I shall now leave England with an easy mind; my first wish would be to see my sister united to a man of honor like yourself; I may boast she is worthy of such—but it must not be, my dear friend; I never will consent that you should run the risk of ruin, to

" procure happiness even to my sister!" The captain made a suitable return to this, and after much further conversation on this subject, with which we shall not trouble the reader, they arrived at Peterborough.

While fresh horses were getting ready, the gentlemen agreed upon a parting bottle; when they had had retired to a room, our hero observed the dejection of his friend. — "To own the truth," said Frederick, "I hate separations, and much more so when the moment is so near. Your goodness, my dear Bennet, I shall ever remember, and I know you will impute to right motives my present disinclination to leave this island; I know you neither suspect my courage or love for my country." — "Say no more," cried Bennet, "whoever knows you, can suspect neither — your motives do you honor, and, damn me, if I don't respect you ten times more than ever for them. Shew me the fellow that can leave his native country, affectionate parents, an angelic sister, and a sincere friend," smiting his breast, "without any emotions of regret or tenderness, and I'll shew you the man who would deserve to be flogged through every regiment in the service.

" — But

“ —But keep up your spirits, my boy,
“ we shall meet again by and by.—
“ Colonel Atkins is a very pleasant,
“ honest fellow, and you may make a
“ very convenient friend of him. I
“ know, from the obligations which
“ he hath to my father, he will do
“ every honor to the old gentleman’s
“ recommendation.” Here our hero
paused, and Frederick began a fresh
round of thanks, in which he was pro-
ceeding, when the landlord informed
him every thing was ready.

The captain then filled up the last
glass.—“ Come, my dear boy, I’ll put
“ the two together I love best; here’s
“ long life and happiness to my Julia,
“ and health and success to my honest
“ Johnson!” This was drank, and re-
turned by Frederick, who immediately
hastened to the chaise.

And now, reader, by what simile or
device shall I explain to thee, the sor-
row which our hero conveyed into his
countenance, while he stood at the
chaise door, grasping the hand of his
friend? Not surely by the sorrow which
that honest gentleman Shylock disco-
vers, when he hears of the extravagance
of his daughter, and of the loss of his
jewels? not by the painful sensation
which afflicted the fair Andromache
when

when her lord went forth to fight? not by the tears, which, according to common story, the Macedonian or Persian general shed at the reflection, that in less than a century every one of the numerous host which then surrounded him, would be mouldering in the dust?

To none of these, reader, was it like, for in all these there was perhaps more or less of sincerity.—It was, in short, nothing but the appearance of sorrow, and veiled but too darkly the exultings of his nefarious soul.—“God bless “you,” said Frederick.—“Remember “if any thing happen, it is to you, “I commit the protection of my sister “till I return.” “Adieu! dear John-“son,” cried our hero, “this cursed “parting is too much—Adieu!” The chaise drove off, and Bennet returned to the room, in order to adjust his features; these indeed took no longer time to reduce to their usual state of pleasantry, than what he employed in putting on his hat and gloves. He then mounted his horse, which had been some time waiting for him, and made the best of his way back to his father’s.

Of his meditations, when he returned to his apartment, we have never been

been able to inform ourselves, with that certainty and minuteness, which would enable us to present them particularly to the reader; from what we have gathered, however, we conceive they were not altogether of the most pleasant sort. Such as they were, however, we will now leave him to them, and to as much comfort as a man may reasonably be supposed to enjoy, whose guilty conscience will now and then, in spite of all his sophistry and refinement, stare him in the face, and unpolitely upbraid him with his meditated perfidy.— Reader, good night; whoever thou art, we heartily wish thee a much better title to calm and refreshing slumbers, than was at this time in the possession of our unworthy hero.

C H A P. III.

Which we fear will not afford much pleasure to those, who begin to be better acquainted with the designs of Bennet, than was either Frederick or Julia.

IT is no very easy matter for a man, who hath just compleated some favorite

vorite purpose, to convey into his features that portion of sadness, which an unlucky combination of circumstances sometimes renders necessary: thus, for instance, I conceive it to have been a most irksome task for a young fellow, who, in the midst of self-congratulations, upon having been favored by Heaven with the death of an old woman whom he had married for her estate, and who had lived ten years beyond his utmost calculation, was surprised by a very particular friend, who brought him the news of the death of his own amiable wife, and with whom it was perfectly incumbent on him to condole.—I say, it must have been a most difficult task, for such a man, to preserve, for an hour or two perhaps, the gravity necessary upon such an occasion; and to exclaim in a tone of becoming sorrow—“ Ah my dear friend, “ I can feel for you!—I have myself, “ you see, but just lost a wife, who “ loved me—Ah she is gone, she is “ gone!—She was a good old creature, “ and I shall never forget her.”—Yet such a task as this, heavy and disagreeable as it is, had Bennet to perform—he could not avoid visiting the Johnsons the next morning, and he thought a decent gravity in his muscles absolutely necessary,

necessary, this, therefore, upon his entrance into the parlor he called forth.— He found them all extremely dull, and his Julia appeared as though she had not enjoyed much repose the past night. This scene was by no means adapted to his taste; and he, therefore, after the necessary portion of condolence, took his leave, having, he said, some particular business to settle previous to his departure for London, and which could not be done at any other time—the eyes of Julia intreated his stay, but he found the restraint he was compelled to endure too troublesome for a long continuance, and happy to escape this time, even the company of Julia, he departed.

We shall not tire the reader, by leading him through all the scenes which ensued during the remaining fortnight of our hero's stay in the country; suffice it that the cheerfulness of this little family soon by degrees returned, and our hero became a more constant visitor than ever, much however to the disapprobation of his father, who frequently remonstrated against the continued intimacy of his son with the family of the Johnsons. They were made happy too in the assurance of the good health and spirits

of Frederick, by letters which they received from that young gentleman, in less than a week after his departure from home; among them was one directed to our hero, which we will present to the reader.

“ DEAR BENNET,

“ I ARRIVED safe in town, on
“ Tuesday, about one o'clock, and waited with your letter upon Colonel Atkins, who is a very genteel man; he received me very politely.—I am now Lieutenant Johnson, at your service, in charming health and spirits. I never have any of you out of my thoughts five minutes together.—I am really pleased with the Colonel, who has promised me his friendship, and I have much reason to believe hath formed a partiality for me—I shall be rejoiced if I am not mistaken, as he seems one of those men, whose friendship is one of the most honorable, as well as pleasant acquisitions a young man can make. Now, for a piece of news! Oh, Harry, I have seen her! yes, I have seen the only woman in the world who ever engaged my thoughts beyond the present minute; but I have not time to tell you all now; my next, if I have any

“ any opportunity, shall contain parti-
“ culars. Adieu, my dear boy; we go
“ to Portsmouth some day next week,
“ which, I cannot learn.

“ F. JOHNSON.”

This letter was, in a few days, followed by another, with which we shall also present the reader.

“ WE have received orders
“ for sailing so suddenly, and I have
“ been so much taken up in conse-
“ quence, that this is the very last mi-
“ nute I have.—Every moment I could
“ steal I have devoted to the most an-
“ gelic woman upon earth.—Oh, Harry,
“ she loves me! and yet I dare not hope
“ for her; I must yet delay particu-
“ lars; suffice it, I had the happiness
“ of rescuing her from very imminent
“ danger of her life—yet I almost wish
“ I had never seen her.—To be torn
“ thus away, in the very moment of—
“ ah, I must not say bliss!—for I can-
“ not, dare not aspire to her—yet she
“ has encouraged me, and could I press
“ my suit at this time, who knows—
“ and yet her situation is so greatly
“ above mine; but I am ordered
“ away—the devil take the army, I
“ was

" was going to say--yet forgive me.
" Adieu.

" F. JOHNSON."

" P. S. You will hear no more from
" me till we arrive at Jamaica."

Our hero blessed his stars that he had at last got rid of one, whose presence would have been an intolerable restraint upon his proceedings, and whose jealousy of his sister's honor would, doubtless, have led him to a suspicion of his real intentions, upon the least motion made by him towards that elopement of Julia, from her father's house, which he hoped now to prevail upon that fair creature to make; but although he had thus removed this obstacle, he had another still more formidable to combat; this was no other than the displeasure of his father, which he greatly dreaded, should the old gentleman discover that he had taken Julia with him to town. How to conquer this difficulty was now become his chief study—he resolved, however, in the first place, to apply himself to Julia, and use his utmost endeavours to wind her to his purpose.

On the day, then, which preceded by two that fixed for his departure, he contrived to have a private meeting with

with our heroine, in that arbour of which we have before made mention; and when they were together, after some hesitation, he thus began:—“ I
“ am, Madam, the miserablest wretch
“ upon earth! I pine, I sicken, I die
“ for the possession of a happiness,
“ which envious fortune seems resolv-
“ ed I shall never obtain---Yes, dear
“ Julia, it is for you I die, and I
“ would rather at this moment die,
“ than longer live to suffer the torments
“ I have endured!”---Oh, heavens,
“ talk not thus!” said Julia, “ what
“ can I say? what can I do to give you
“ comfort?”---“ Oh, Julia!” replied
the Captain, “ do you utter these
“ words? do I really hear such conde-
“ scension from those lips!--but ah!
“ the fates, the fates are against us!--
“ It is but this very morning my cruel
“ father hath again commanded me, on
“ pain of his utmost displeasure, to con-
“ verse with you no more:---that displea-
“ sure threatens me with ruin: could I
“ alone be involved in ruin for your dear
“ sake, I should despise it!--but there,
“ there is the dagger that stabs me to
“ the heart! you must partake with me,
“ and I cannot introduce you to distress,
“ for the sake of a man, who is utterly
“ unworthy of your exalted purity: No,
“ by

“ by heaven, I will not!—the day after
“ to-morrow I depart, a very wretch!
“ but I will leave my Julia to peace!”
“ —That will you not,” cried Julia,
“ for never shall my breast know peace
“ while you are wretched!”—“ Oh, say
“ not so,” returned our hero, “ say not
“ so, my fair Julia, Heaven forbid, so
“ unworthy an object as myself, should
“ give a moment’s pain to that gentle
“ bosom! let *me* suffer alone in obedi-
“ ence to a parent’s harsh command,
“ and it will at least be an alleviation of
“ my anguish that *you* do not partake
“ of it, that *you* are happy—yet Heaven
“ knows, *you* are all I want to complete
“ my happiness—you are that happi-
“ ness itself, for without *you* I am, I
“ must be miserable!—“ Good God,”
exclaimed Julia, “ how unhappy am I!
“ I know your generosity—I know your
“ honor, your kindness to my dear Fre-
“ derick, your benevolence to that good
“ old woman,” meaning Goody Potter,
(for Bennet had several times visited the
old woman, since the time we have
mentioned) “ stamp your mind as most
“ worthy—Oh, Captain Bennet, name
“ the thing I can do, to restore peace
“ to your breast.”—“ Nothing less than
“ yourself can give me peace!” ex-
claimed our hero, in a passionate tone.

“ Alas!”

“ Alas ! ” said she, “ how can this be ?
“ I must own the truth, my father and
“ mother, suspecting our connection,
“ have charged me with it, nor will
“ they give credit to my denial.” —
“ Then you did deny it ? ” said he. —
“ What could I do ? ” returned Julia,
“ you had obtained my promise of se-
“ crecy, and could I break that ? ” —
“ Lovely girl ! then our secret yet is
“ safe.” — “ But they would not believe
“ me,” said Julia, and commanded me
“ not to think of you.” — “ Cruel, cruel
“ parents ! ” cried the Captain, “ why
“ are they so fatally determined to make
“ us wretched ? ” He then proceeded to
more vehement protestations of his love
than ever, which, as he found they
worked upon the mind of the deluded
Julia according to his wish, he followed
(but not without much of that hesita-
tion we often see a certain sort of im-
pudent fellows affect) with a proposal
of an elopement and private marriage ;
at the first mention of which Julia
started. “ Can I leave my parents,”
said she, “ who have ever been so kind
“ and tender to me, to deplore the loss
“ of their only daughter, deprived too
“ of their son ? ” She paused, and our
hero immediately assured her, that she
should not have any ground to charge
herself

herself with the least unkindness to them. " And now, my fair Julia, permit me to propose to you that plan, which in this very arbour I told you I would perfect — this I have done, faintly hoping, what yet I hardly dared think of — this plan will, I am persuaded, if you will do me the honor to hear it, sufficiently satisfy you, that while I am most anxious of our mutual happiness, I have not been unmindful of the ease of those who are most dear to you: my gentle girl, let us not be too easily overcome with weak prejudices — it is not impossible even for our parents sometimes to err, and nature certainly never intended that parents should exercise their authority for the misery of their children; much less to debar us from using innocent means to attain that happiness, of which they would deprive us." — Julia seemed somewhat satisfied with this cogent reasoning, and the young gentleman proceeded without delay, to lay before her the plan he had so happily conceived, this having done, he conjured her, as she loved him, as she valued his peace, and as she would not have him linger out a short remainder of life in wretchedness, that she would adopt

adopt it. "By so doing," said he, "you will make your Bennet, who would willingly sacrifice his life for your sake, the most happy and grateful of mankind, and the peace of your parents cannot be injured; and, hear me, most lovely of women, while I vow to devote to you, a life of unceasing gratitude!"—Julia was greatly distressed.—"What can I do?" said she. "Oh, that my brother were but here, to advise with me in this momentous affair!"—"Were he here," replied our hero, with great eagerness, "I am sure he would plead for both our happiness."—At length, Julia, overcome by the numberless protestations of love and fidelity which the Captain made her, consented to assist in the execution of his plan, though we will do her the justice to say, not without many expressions, and more emotions of reluctance.

Bennet having thus far obtained his purpose, returned, upon his knees, a thousand thanks for her goodness towards him; and, after some little further conversation, Julia returned to the house, and our hero, by another way, went back to his father's.

C H A P. IV.

In which will be found our hero's plan at full length, together with other matters.

BEFORE we relate the particulars of the Captain's plan, it will be proper to inform the reader, that there was a connection of some time standing between Mr. Johnson and a gentleman of the name of Burrows, who lived about fifteen or twenty miles distant from the village in which Johnson dwelt.

This Mr. Burrows, who was a bachelor, had, among his other possessions, a sister, a very excellent lady, somewhat in years beyond thirty, between whom and our heroine, there had for some time existed a very agreeable correspondence. — Miss Burrows had been several times with her brother to visit the Johnson family since they had removed into Mr. Bennet's neighbourhood; our hero had seen them several times, in the course of those visits, and had, by his specious appearance, very much advanced himself into their good opinions, insomuch, that before Mr. Burrows left Johnson's he requested young Bennet would

would pay him a visit at an early opportunity, after he should have returned from an excursion he was going to make with his sister, into the western part of the kingdom — and Miss Burrows insisted, that Julia should come and spend a month with her; promising to give her timely notice of her return. This invitation was agreed to by Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, and accepted by Julia, with great demonstrations of pleasure.

It was then from these circumstances that the fertile invention of our hero formed that plot, which we will now communicate to the reader. Finding by some means that Mr. Burrows and his sister had been retarded in their return home by some accident, and were not yet expected, he conceived it would be a very favorable opportunity for him to effect his purpose; contriving therefore to obtain a letter of Miss Burrows's, he sat himself down to imitate the hand writing, and having acquired a sufficient degree of facility, wrote as follows.

“ At length, after a horrid tedious
“ journey, we have arrived safe at home,
“ and I shall now insist upon my dear
“ Miss Johnson's performance of her
“ promise, made me before we set out;
VOL. I. N “ this

" this will reach you on Sunday morning,
 " and on Monday I must really
 " see you, so shall admit of no excuses.
 " — If you can bring an agreeable es-
 " cort with you, do — you know who
 " I mean. — I never intend to marry my-
 " self, my dear, so don't be alarmed —
 " those odious creatures, the men, love
 " to be employed about us. I write
 " shockingly, but am quite fatigued
 " with my journey, and unpacking,
 " with a thousand little et ceteras. With
 " compliments to the old folks, I am
 " my dear Julia's affectionate

" E. BURROWS."

" P. S. My brother is really quite
 " tiresome, I tell him you must come
 " and cure him. — I shall send a servant
 " to attend you, with the horse you
 " like to ride; as I know the good old
 " people don't like to spare honest
 " John."

This letter our hero purposed to send
 by some special messenger of his own
 finding out, and, provided the old
 people consented to this visit, which
 indeed they had before promised, our
 heroine was to set off with the servant
 the Captain was to provide, for a little
 village, about ten miles off, towards
 London,

London, where he was to meet her, and they were then to proceed immediately for London, where our hero engaged a particular friend of his should unite them.

In order the more effectually to forward his designs, and to keep his motions a secret from his father and the domestics of the family, he had some little time before hired into his service, a shrewd fellow, of whom he had accidentally heard, and whom, having sounded him well, he found fit for any purposes in which he might have occasion for an agent. This man had formerly lived with one of those hopeful sparks, who promise by their present folly and extravagance to do no great future honor to their families or their country. In this gentleman's service, he had acquired all that cunning and assurance, which are so necessary to the exploits in which such young gentlemen are frequently engaged, and which rendered him very fit to be employed in our hero's service on this occasion.

Having been well assured of the abilities of this honest fellow, and agreed for his secrecy at a pretty high price, he took him into his service, and his first essay in it was to be the delivering the

letter, we have just before mentioned, to Julia.

This, reader, was the contrivance our hero had formed to gain possession of this young woman, to the execution of which, infatuated as she was with the Captain, he brought her in an evil hour to consent.---He would not, it is true, have taken all this precaution, had he not considered that any expedient which would appear to preserve the peace of her parents, would induce Julia the most readily to listen to a proposal, which without some such salvo, he feared she might immediately reject, and further, he thereby hoped to hide his flight with Julia, from the knowledge of his father, from whom indeed he was most desirous to conceal it.

To defend our heroine from those censures which will no doubt, by most of our readers, the female part especially, be cast upon her, for her conduct in this instance, is really out of our power; but that we may not be condemned for too easily giving up her cause, we will, as a palliative, beg leave to acquaint such readers, that it was the most prominent part of our hero's plan, that she might, after the ceremony

remony had passed between them, return, if she chose it, immediately to her father's; this she certainly intended to do, and as she considered that she might make her beloved Bennet her own, beyond the fear or power of recal, without injuring the peace of her parents, and that an opportunity might shortly arrive of making the discovery to them, she consented to the execution of this plan, though not, as we have before said, without much hesitation.

Sunday morning being arrived, Barnard, the captain's new servant, arrived also with the letter for Julia, and now, that poor young lady began to find the dismal effects of her deviation from the path of truth: Mr. and Mrs. Johnson consented with much apparent pleasure to this excursion of their daughter, and the subject of it frequently occurring in the course of the day, Julia felt, in bearing her part of it, a distress which was perfectly new to her innocent bosom.

At length to her great joy, the hour of retirement came—the day had been truly most unpleasant to her, not only on the account just mentioned, but also from another, viz. the absence of Bennet, who, as the next day was fixed on

for his departure, was entirely engaged with his father; gladly indeed would he have dispensed with this engagement; a thousand fears occurred, that Julia might prove unsteady in her purpose, and he would have given the world to have been with her — but this was vain, it was impossible to frame an excuse for being absent from his father, and he was compelled to submit to the disagreeable uncertainty.

This was the first truly uneasy night poor Julia had ever passed; and the conflict in her mind entirely took up those moments, which conscious innocence had before devoted to sleep; often did she reflect with shame and sorrow on the fallacy she had maintained through the past day, and often, when she contemplated the tenderness of her parents towards her, was she on the point of determining to relinquish the whole design and confess the truth — but the next reflection told her, she had now gone too far to recede; the happiness of the expedient by which her parents would certainly be saved every unpleasant sensation, stepped into its assistance, and finally, the love she bore to our hero compleated the conquest, and she resolved, let what would be the consequence,

consequence, to fulfil her engagements with that young gentleman.

And here I will seize a moment to admonish my young and inexperienced female readers, how they forego the confidence they have reposed, and ought ever to repose in those, whom nature and reason have combined to make their proper guardians; and how they transfer that confidence to those, whose friendship towards them hath never yet been tried, and is at best only known from professions, which too often prove delusive. Take heed, then, my gentle reader, that thou do not too readily give credit to the artful insinuations of that man, who may probably present to thy imagination pictures of future joy, but who will perhaps in the end, lead thee to the darkened regions of shame, and remorse.

Our hero was at Mr. Johnson's, the next day, when Barnard, in a livery of Mr. Burrows's, which had been provided for the purpose, rang at the gate—and here indeed was the master piece of his hypocrisy displayed; he lamented his incapacity to honor himself with the acceptance of Mr. Burrows's kind invitation in very high terms, and turning to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, with an

air of the highest gravity, he said,
" Well, my dear friends, this is the only
" opportunity I shall have of thank-
" ing you, before my departure for
" town, (as I shall set off this evening
" or early to-morrow morning,) for
" all the civility I have experienced
" from you; if I should not again see
" you, be assured that I will not for-
" get your politeness."—Proper an-
swers were made to this, and then, our
hero, after having attended Julia to
her horse, and very solemnly wished
her all health and happiness, took his
leave.

Poor Julia had by no means acted
her part with such facility; she had in-
deed spoke as little as possible, and ex-
erted her spirits with so ill a grace,
that her father and mother more than
once took notice of it; supposing, how-
ever, they knew the cause, they said the
less, and joined in hoping that her
visit, new company, and the lively con-
versation of Miss Burrows, who was
a very cheerful, sensible woman, would
greatly help to dissipate her apparent
concern, and that love for the Cap-
tain, which they saw with great sor-
row still retained an ascendancy in her
bosom.

These

These honest people had seen too much of life, to think a man of Bennet's fortune would entertain serious thoughts of their daughter; and his never having made proposals of any kind to either of them, confirmed them in this idea: they had both frequently conversed with Julia upon the subject, but to little purpose, the poor, deluded young lady constantly denied any affection for the Captain, and they were therefore at last obliged to content themselves with wishing, which they did most heartily, that their daughter should conquer a passion which they considered as fruitless, and which had so unhappily taken possession of her mind.

N 5 1000 C H A R

C H A P. V.

In which our hero and heroine meet, and proceed towards London.

IT luckily happened, that the road, which it would have been necessary for Julia and her attendant to take, for Mr. Burrows's, was the same, for four miles as that they were compelled to travel for the village to which they were destined; she therefore escaped all that dread of meeting any of the neighbours, which the travelling a wrong road would have inspired, and the bare idea of which would have added grievously to that perturbation, from which her mind was by no means free.

When

When they arrived at the spot where the roads parted, Barnard, according to the instructions he had received from his master, conducted our heroine into a cross country road, which not only secured them from any fear of discovery, but brought them by a nearer way to the village.

The serving man and his fair charge entered a little hedge inn, which stood in the entrance of this village, and to which the Captain presently afterwards came. Our travellers now journeyed in the high road, and as Julia professed much fear of meeting with some of her father's friends, and as our hero himself did not greatly relish the idea of being seen by any of his own, at this time, of which there was at least a possibility, it was agreed after they had proceeded about two miles, to take a private road by which the post boy undertook to conduct them; which he said scarcely any body knew but himself, and which, though it was somewhat round about, would bring them again into the London road, a mile or two below Peterborough; Julia begged the fellow would strike into that road, but at the same time to be certain that he knew the way,

way, as the evening was coming on.—
“ Know the way,” said the boy, “ why
“ laud bless your ladyship—I have
“ been that there road I believe more
“ than once, aye, aye, and upon a very
“ good errand too, I promise you—
“ your ladyship is not the first lady I
“ have drove that way.”—To this,
Julia returned no answer, and our hero
ordered the boy to drive them the road
he had mentioned; this he immediately
obeyed, to the great pleasure of our
lovers, whose fears were presently diffi-
cipated, and they had now leisure to at-
tend to each other.

It has been remarked by some one, that in proportion as our loquacity has been restrained by fear, or something else, in that proportion hath it increased upon the removal of the said fear; so did it now happen to the Captain, who no sooner found himself at perfect liberty, than he immediately opened upon that subject which occupied his heart, and upon which he had so lit-
tle opportunity of enlarging this day—
he began therefore in the following
manner—“ Oh, my lovely Julia, I
“ know not how sufficiently to thank
“ you

“ you for this excessive goodness! it
“ has overcome me! and I am uneasy
“ under too great a load of happiness.
“ What is it I do not owe to you, for
“ such great, such unexpected conces-
“ sion? I feel indeed totally unable
“ to repay the vast debt of gratitude.
“ Oh, madam! I must for ever remain
“ sensible of the value of your goodness,
“ without the power to make the return
“ my heart would dictate! On my
“ knees let me thank you,”—and down
on one knee he dropt in the chaise.
“ Rise, Sir, I beseech you! the man
“ may see you; what will he think?”
“ Oh heavens!” said our hero, rising,
“ he knows not the goddess to whom I
“ could for ever kneel! amiable crea-
“ ture! you are all loveliness! all per-
“ fection! and I adore you!” At these
words he pressed her hand between his,
and raised it to his lips—Julia did not
withdraw it, and he proceeded, “ But
“ though I must ever deplore my ina-
“ bility to make an adequate return to
“ such superior goodness, as my lovely
“ Julia truly possesses, yet may I hope,
“ at a distance hope, that my endea-
“ yours to make some return may be
“ accepted? Oh, my charmer! I am
“ de-

“ determined I will endeavor to merit
“ in some degree your goodness; and I
“ long ardently for that happy hour,
“ which shall make you mine, wholly
“ and for ever, and which will give
“ me a right to call such beauties my
“ own; and to shew you, by actions of
“ love and tenderness, how much I
“ wish to be worthy of such exalted
“ purity! — “ Oh, Captain Bennet!”
cried the poor, deluded Julia, “ do not
“ oppress me! If I did not think you
“ worthy of my love, I should not have
“ taken this step, a step at which, in
“ spite of all your worth, and my own
“ resolution, my heart will sometimes
“ revolt; I cannot bear the idea of
“ having deceived my dear parents,
“ though I know that they themselves
“ will have cause to rejoice hereafter at
“ the deception — but you will remem-
“ ber, Sir, there is one thing which I
“ have indeed named before to you,
“ and which I must again insist upon.”
“ — What, what is this, my lovely girl?”
cried our hero, with great eagerness,
“ your wishes, your desires, are to me
“ commands; name this, and you shall
“ presently see, by my obedience, the
“ reverence in which I hold it.” —
“ Then,

“ Then, Captain Bennet,” cried Julia,
“ you must again ratify the promise
“ you have made me, that immedi-
“ ately after the ceremony of our mar-
“ riage (which you say you have a
“ friend ready to perform upon our
“ arrival in town) I shall return to my
“ parents, and that you will accompany
“ me, and at once confess our union.—
“ I am every hour more uneasy, under
“ the reflection, that they are deluded;
“ I trust their goodness will be pre-
“ vailed on to forgive me, for having
“ deceived them, perhaps much more
“ easily, than I shall forgive myself.”—
“ Why, why does my Julia talk thus?”
said our hero—“ To procure ourselves
“ happiness, is certainly no sin, pro-
“ vided that happiness does not consist
“ in any thing that is contrary to our
“ virtue. — God forbid I should ever
“ take a delight in deception; the man,
“ my Julia, who would deceive an-
“ other, either to his hurt, or for the
“ pleasure of deceiving, must be more
“ depraved in his principles, than I can
“ at present conceive it possible for a
“ man to be; I thank God there is
“ not a man in the world whose na-
“ tural inclinations are more averse
“ to

“ to every species of deception, than
“ my own.” — “ Pardon me, Sir,”
said Julia, “ I did not mean to hint
“ such a thing; my present conduct
“ will, I think, answer for me pretty
“ well, that I place a confidence in
“ you, which it would be impossible
“ for me, while in my senses, to re-
“ pose in a man, whom I could in
“ the most distant degree suspect of a
“ design to deceive me — but you can-
“ not, I am sure, wonder, that I should
“ be so anxious to undeceive those, as
“ soon as possible, whose conduct to-
“ wards me hath ever been most ge-
“ nerosus and candid, or that I should
“ feel a degree of reluctance to permit
“ the existence of a deception, which it
“ was in my power to do away; there-
“ fore it was, that I proposed to
“ you so speedy a return to my
“ father’s house, of which I again
“ insist on the promise from you.”
“ Rightly do you say, my be-
“ loved Julia,” said the Captain,
“ for ingenuity is the very soul
“ of virtue, and the little, nar-
“ row, disingenuous mind, if it
“ be not already vitiated, is in a
“ fair way of being so, it is in-
“ capable

" capable of every noble, generous, charitable sentiment"—Bennet was then proceeding to some further of his usual protestations, when a gentleman rode up to the chaise, and ordered the boy to stop; this order the lad courageously refused to comply with, swearing he would stop for nobody but his master.—"Oh, you won't," said the stranger, "then by G—d you shall take a long gallop into the other world," at which words, he, without any further parley, discharged a pistol at the post-boy, who fell immediately from his horse.—This being done, the highwayman, for such in reality he was, went to the window of the chaise, and, with much abusive language, made the demand usual upon such occasions. Our hero, with a countenance not we confess of the most ferocious sort, gently desired this son of plunder to be civil, and he should have what he wanted.—"Civil, aye aye, come, let me see the bit—and I'll be civil enough—if that fellow there, had not been so d—d obstinate, he might have been cross his

"his horse now; but there he lies,
"and he may lie and be od—d?"
During this time he had taken the
affrighted Julia's watch and pocket-
book, and a purse of our hero's, he
was then proceeding to Barnard,
who rode behind, when, hearing
the sound of a horse's feet at some
little distance, he decamped with the
utmost expedition. This highway-
man wore on the upper part of his
face a piece of black crape, so that
our hero could by no means have sworn
to the identity of his person, had he
been inclined to pursue him; but to do
this, he had no opportunity, consider-
ing the place where they were, and the
condition of Julia, and the post-boy;
but, to confess the truth, if he had had
the best opportunity in the world, he
had no inclination; one pistol had al-
ready been fired pretty near him, and
he had not any particular desire to try
the event of a second; indeed, there was
somewhat in gunpowder, fire-arms, &c.
to which this gentleman had a wonder-
ful aversion; nor let this be thought the
more to his disparagement, because he
was now become an officer in his Ma-
jesty's guards, since, if we are not
greatly

greatly misinformed; there are at this time, not a few of those officers, men of honor, and to be credited of course, whose valour, by all the accounts they have ever given of themselves, is of the most mettlesome sort, who have nevertheless that astonishing aversion to the aforesaid gunpowder, &c. for which, not only ourselves, but many others, have never been able to account.

No sooner were our hero and heroine recovered a little from the fright into which they had been thus thrown, than they beheld a sight which had very nearly thrown them back again; and at which, the reader will no doubt be equally surprized; this was, in fact, no other than the honest post-boy again mounting his horse: Bennet, in much astonishment, called from the chaise, to know if he was hurt. "No, " an thank your honor," cried he, " not hurt, I believe."—" How came you then to fall from your horse?" " Ah, I know not, an please your honor," cried the boy, " but I thought he had killed me for sartain, and so I fell down as thoff I had been dead." —The boy by this time had settled him-

himself upon his horse, and having greeted the beasts with the usual salutation, they proceeded immediately on their way.



BND OF VOL. I.